

# SC036740

Registered provider: Nottinghamshire County Council

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## **Information about this children's home**

This secure children's home is managed by a local authority. It is approved by the Department for Education to restrict young people's liberty. The children's home can accommodate up to 20 young people, who are aged between 10 and 17 years. It provides accommodation for up to 14 young people placed by the Youth Custody Service and has up to four places for young people accommodated under section 25 of the Children Act 1989. Admission of any young person under section 25 of the Children Act 1989 who is under 13 years of age requires the approval of the Secretary of State. The commissioning of health services in this home is the statutory responsibility of NHS England under the Health and Social Care Act 2012. Education is provided on site.

**Inspection date:** 11 December 2018

**Judgement at last inspection:** good

**Date of last inspection:** 17 July 2018

**Enforcement action since last inspection:** none

## **This inspection**

### **The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection**

This home was judged good at the last full inspection.

At the interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness.

Progress has been made on seven of the requirements made at the last inspection. One is being repeated. Two education and one health-related recommendations have not been considered. These will be assessed at the next full inspection.

At the last inspection, concerns were identified in relation to staff consistency in carrying out checks on young people when in their bedrooms. This was particularly for the children who had been identified as being at risk of self-harm. This requirement has been addressed. Observations made and records checked show that practice in this area is now robust and that staff are alert to risks. Risk management plans are explicit and staff implement them in practice. Additionally, advice and guidance in managing self-harming behaviours is provided by health professionals, such as a psychiatrist and a psychologist. This assists the staff and children in understanding behaviours and reducing risks.

The recording of children's complaints and their resolutions has improved since the last inspection. This means that there is now evidence to show that issues raised have been addressed to the satisfaction of the complainants.

Recording and stock control of medication is now audited and monitored effectively. Consequently, members of staff are administering medication to the children at the correct times and in the right doses.

Samples of supervision records show that supervision occurs regularly, in line with the organisation's policy. The sessions ensure that the impact of working with children who may display challenging behaviours is fully considered and explored. This is an improvement since the last inspection.

At the last inspection a requirement was made in relation to ensuring that all relevant details were included in records of single separation. This has not been achieved. Children's views are inconsistently recorded following these incidents. This has not been identified during monitoring by managers. The requirement is therefore repeated. In addition, a requirement has been made to improve the quality of management monitoring.

Records of restraint were examined at this inspection. It was noted that there were two incidents in which a child was held in the prone position. The safety of the children involved was ensured during the incidents. However, evaluation, monitoring and scrutiny by the managers after the events were lacking in depth.

Records written after monitoring visits carried out by an independent person show that the safeguarding of the children has been considered and commented upon. This requirement has now been addressed.

The views of all stakeholders are sought by managers during reviews of the quality of service. This addresses the requirement made at the last inspection.

Transition planning for the children by members of staff is conscientious. Mobility plans are drawn up to meet their needs and take into consideration their vulnerabilities and risks. Transition plans are implemented at a pace that children can cope with. This process prepares children for their next moves, whether these are to another secure

provision or to the community.

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
17/07/2018	Full	Good
08/03/2018	Interim	Declined in effectiveness
23/05/2017	Full	Outstanding
06/12/2016	Interim	Declined in effectiveness

## What does the children's home need to do to improve?

### Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person(s) must take to meet the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards'. The registered person(s) must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
<p>The leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that—</p> <p>helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and</p> <p>promotes their welfare.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to—</p> <p>use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13(1)(a)(b)(2)(h))</p> <p>This is with reference to managers ensuring that they maintain</p>	31/01/2019

oversight of restraint records and records of single separation so that shortfalls and practice can be rigorously assessed and addressed.	
<p>The registered person must ensure that within 24 hours of the use of a measure of control, discipline or restraint in relation to a child in the home, a record is made which includes all required information. (Regulation 35(3)(a)(i-viii))</p> <p>This is in relation to ensuring that all records of single separation are kept up to date so that managers can monitor them effectively, and the young people's views are consistently recorded.</p>	31/01/2019

## Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the differences made to the lives of children and young people. They watched how professional staff work with children and young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care provided. Wherever possible, they talked to children and young people and their families. In addition, the inspectors have tried to understand what the children's home knows about how well it is performing, how well it is doing and what difference it is making for the children and young people whom it is trying to help, protect and look after.

This inspection focused on the effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection.

Using the 'Social care common inspection framework', this inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, and to consider how well it complies with the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards'.

## Children's home details

**Unique reference number:** SC036740

**Provision sub-type:** secure unit

**Registered provider:** Nottinghamshire County Council

**Registered provider address:** County Hall, Loughborough Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7QP

**Responsible individual:** Shelagh Mitchell

**Registered manager:** Paul Thomas

## Inspectors

Paul Taylor, social care inspector  
Shaun Common, Lead Professional Secure Estate

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