

# SC035409

**Northumberland County Council**

Monitoring visit

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

This secure children's home is operated by a local authority and is approved by the Department for Education (DfE) to restrict children's liberty. The home can accommodate up to 15 children who are aged between 10 and 17 years. It has three designated living areas. There were 11 children living in the home at the time of this visit.

The home provides care for children accommodated under section 25 of the Children Act 1989 who are placed by local authorities. Admission of any child 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. Health and education are provided on site in dedicated facilities.

The manager is registered with Ofsted and is suitably qualified and experienced.

**Inspection date:** 19 August 2022

## **This monitoring visit**

The inspector visited the home with a specialist architect commissioned by the DfE. This visit forms part of the information that Ofsted provide to the DfE so that the Secretary of State can make a decision about the continuing suitability of the home to restrict children's liberty.

The home provides a high-quality environment that is suitable to meet the needs of children who require secure care.

The recommendation made at the last inspection will be reviewed at the next inspection.

## Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
01/03/2022	Full	Good
21/09/2021	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
26/11/2019	Full	Good
04/07/2019	Interim	Improved effectiveness

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

### **Recommendations**

- The registered person must ensure that children are consulted regularly on their views about the home's care, to inform and support continued improvement in the quality of care provided. Specifically, suggestions or requests raised at children's meetings should be brought forward into the records of the next meeting with the decision or outcome recorded. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 22, paragraph 4.11)

### **Information about this inspection**

This monitoring visit was carried out in line with the memorandum of understanding between Ofsted and the Department for Education (DfE).

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

## **Children's home details**

**Unique reference number:** SC035409

**Provision sub-type:** Secure unit

**Registered provider:** Northumberland County Council

**Registered provider address:** Northumberland County Council, County Hall,  
Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 2EF

**Responsible individual:** Adam Hall

**Registered manager:** Julie Tinkler

## **Inspector**

Shaun Common, His Majesty's Inspector, Social Care Lead Secure Estate

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