

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	09/03/2017
Unique reference number	SC461450
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	Harmony Children's Services Limited
Registered provider address	

Responsible individual	Mark Raw
Registered manager	Keith Poynton
Inspector	Pauline Yates

Inspection date	09/03/2017
Previous inspection judgement	Good
Enforcement action since last inspection	None
This inspection	
<p>The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection.</p> <p>This home was judged good at the full inspection. At this interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness.</p> <p>This is a solo placement and the young person continues to make progress through living at the home. This is achieved through the dedication of staff in seeking to fully understand the young person's needs and adjusting the care given accordingly. The manager and staff use reflective practice in order to fully appreciate the emotional difficulties that the young person experiences. When progress falters, staff respond in a sensitive and timely manner.</p> <p>When young people have left the home this has involved the manager sharing all available information regarding the young person with the future placement. In addition, the manager has been active in transporting the young person to their new home.</p> <p>The manager is active in seeking to improve the care offered to young people and good progress has been made against the development plan he set out for the home. Improvements have been made with regard to embedding a reflective approach in the responses given to young people, the nature and purpose of boundaries and routines and ensuring that young people are the main focus in the supervision of staff.</p> <p>Since the last inspection, all requirements and recommendations have been met. This includes the manager acting as an effective advocate for young people, ensuring that they receive identified services when they need them. In addition, authority delegated to the home from the local authority is now clear. Young people now no longer face any frustration in waiting upon decisions from social workers.</p> <p>Partnership working between staff and other agencies is effective. The manager and staff actively seek advice and consultation from therapeutic services and appropriately involve both health and educational settings to ensure that services to young people are holistic.</p> <p>Since the last inspection, there has been one complaint that was dealt with appropriately. Staff rarely and appropriately use physical intervention only when</p>	

other means of de-escalation have not been successful. Any incidents are evaluated and analysed by the manager. This process is used to identify any patterns or areas of learning that can be shared with the staff and used to improve staff responses to young people.

Information about this children's home

This home is privately owned and run. It is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to three children with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
06/09/2016	Full	Good
24/08/2015	Full	Requires improvement
21/07/2015	Full	Inadequate
19/02/2015	Interim	Declined in effectiveness

What the inspection judgements mean

At the interim inspection we make a judgement on whether the home has improved in effectiveness, sustained effectiveness, or declined in effectiveness since the previous full inspection. This is in line with the 'Inspection of children's homes: framework for inspection'.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people living in the children's home. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the difference that adults make to the lives of children and young people. They read case files, watched how professional staff work with children, young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care given to children and young people. Wherever possible, they talked to children, 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 who 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.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service 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'.

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