

Children's homes - monitoring

Inspection date	19/01/2016
Unique reference number	SC433430
Type of inspection	Monitoring
Inspector	Rachel Griffiths

This monitoring visit

This home was judged as requires improvement at the full inspection on 25/08/2015. At an interim inspection on 11/12/15 it was judged as sustained effectiveness. Three requirements were set. This monitoring visit was undertaken to review progress in relation to these requirements.

Two requirements relate to the physical environment of the home. Although there is clear evidence of progress, so that the condition of the home is improved, further improvements are required in order to achieve a high quality living environment for all young people. A third requirement in relation to staff training has been met.

In some respects, since the last inspection, the premises have improved. For example, one young person has had a new bed, a new settee and he has chosen and helped to build storage furniture for his bedroom. These purchases, as well as improved monitoring through newly implemented daily task sheets, ensure that young people's living environment is cleaner, more hygienic and a more nurturing environment to live in. However, some maintenance issues remain outstanding. One young person's bathroom remains in a poor state of repair, with a damaged door and walls. In addition, repairs to ensure the safety of the decking area in the garden remain incomplete. Although there are plans to address these outstanding maintenance issues, records within the home do not sufficiently demonstrate what actions have been taken to ensure that these repairs are completed without delay. Neither do they indicate when jobs have been, or will be, completed. Prompt responses to damage, and improved recording and monitoring systems in relation to maintenance, are required in order to promote continuous improvements to the physical environment, and improve the safety and quality of their home environment.

Gaps in staff training have been addressed. All staff have now completed training in relation to the home's specific behaviour management and physical restraint approach. As a result, staff are now better equipped to meet the complex and challenging behavioural needs of young people.

Information about this children's home

This children's home is run by a private organisation. It is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to three children and young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties. The main house can accommodate two children and young people and the cottage annex on the other side of the driveway can accommodate one.

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

Statutory Requirements

This section sets out the actions which must be taken so that the registered person/s meets 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 with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
12: The protection of children standard: In order to meet the protection of children standard the registered person must: 2(d) ensure that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed, furnished and maintained so as to protect each child from avoidable hazards	04/03/2016
13: The leadership and management standard: In order to meet the leadership and management standard the registered person must: 2(h) use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home, with particular reference to the monitoring and review of maintenance systems.	04/03/2016

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the home since their last Ofsted inspection.

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

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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