

## Children's homes - interim inspection

<b>Inspection date</b>	<b>26/05/15</b>
<b>Unique reference number</b>	<b>SC393940</b>
<b>Type of inspection</b>	<b>Interim</b>
<b>Provision subtype</b>	<b>Children's home</b>
<b>Registered person</b>	<b>Mrs Susan Potton</b>
<b>Registered person address</b>	<b>1 Creswell Park, LONDON, SE3 9RD</b>

<b>Registered Individual</b>	<b>Susan Potton</b>
<b>Registered manager</b>	<b>Emma Donnelly</b>
<b>Inspector</b>	<b>Fiona Littlefield</b>

<b>Inspection date</b>	<b>26/05/2015</b>
<b>Previous inspection judgement</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>
<b>Enforcement action since last inspection</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>This inspection: Sustained Effectiveness</b>	
<b>The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection.</b>	
<p>The last inspection made one recommendation regarding the recording of progress that young people made against the independence programme. This has been fully addressed.</p> <p>Most young people have made progress since being in the home. They all attend school or college. If there are gaps in their education provision, the home has been proactive and imaginative in addressing these so that young people benefit from full time provision. Some young people have exhibited challenging behaviour which had caused difficulties for teachers and had threatened their future at the school. However, the home successfully liaised with teachers and has supplied extra support. As a result their future educational plans have been assured.</p> <p>The young people benefit from close relationships with staff who know them well and are attentive to them. Staff discuss in daily and weekly meetings any changes or developments in young people's behaviour. Young people who do not have a sense of danger due to their complex needs, are supported by staff who are committed to them being safe both within the home and in the community. All activities are fully risk assessed and the high staff ratio means that young people are able to enjoy a wide range of activities safely.</p> <p>Learning is built into all activities. Staff are encouraged to be creative and enthusiastic. They challenge young people and are ambitious for them. As one senior member of staff said 'every time I do something, I think what I am teaching them'. The young people are encouraged to acquire skills for independence at an early stage. Goals include ordering snacks in a café, using the Post Office and handling money. Some young people have been able to use public transport with staff and the plan is now to enable them to undertake short journeys on their own. Consequently, young people gain confidence as they acquire experiences in a safe and supported way.</p> <p>Some young people are newly resident in the home. The quality of initial planning with placing authorities does not always lead to a full and robust understanding of</p>	

the needs of young people who have been referred. On occasion, this has led to inappropriate admissions. However, the Registered Manager and staff are fully aware of this shortfall. The manager is also reviewing the admission protocols to prevent a re-occurrence. Staff have maintained high levels of supervision so that the safety of young people already resident in the home has not been compromised.

Feedback from external professionals and family members is positive with particular focus on their commitment to partnership and the support they provide to any contact arrangements. Young people are felt to be safe and stimulated by those who know them well. This has a beneficial impact on young people who feel valued. The grand-mother of one young person said 'he has made progress because he is calmer. He has good relationships with staff and likes being nearer home'.

Managers have monitored quality of care in the home. Behaviour is managed with an emphasis on calmness, de-escalation and encouraging positive behaviour. Incidents of restraint, sanctions and rewards are fully documented giving the young people's views. This careful consistent approach helps young people to accept that there are consequences to their behaviour. There has been one incident of a young person going missing from care. This was not reported to Ofsted in a timely manner. The manager is fully aware of this shortfall and is reviewing procedures to ensure that there is no re-occurrence of this.

The home is comfortably furnished and decorated with ample room for communal living and private time for young people who prefer this. Young people are able to relax in surroundings that promote their well-being.

## Information about this children's home

This is a privately owned residential service for up to five young people with a diagnosed learning disability

## Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
22/01/2015	Full	Outstanding
12/06/2014	Interim	Improved effectiveness
30/01/2014	Full	Good
08/04/2013	Interim	Satisfactory progress

## 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
<p>Regulation 14(1)(b)</p> <p>In order to meet the care planning standard the registered provider must:</p> <p>with particular reference to ensuring that a young person has a positive experience of arriving at the home, the registered provider must ensure that staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) have all possible information available concerning that young person, including risk assessments</li> <li>(ii) have been able to access any recent specialist reports from previous homes where the child was accommodated.</li> </ul>	15/06/2015
<p>Regulation 14(2)(a)</p> <p>In order to meet the care planning standard with particular reference to ensuring that young people are only admitted to the home if their needs are within the range of need of young people for whom it is intended that the home is to provide care and accommodation, the registered provider must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) any referral is assessed to meet the criteria for the home as set out in the home's Statement of Purpose</li> <li>(ii) that they help each young person to keep safe.</li> </ul>	15/06/2015
<p>The registered person must without delay notify HMCI if an incident requiring police involvement occurs in relation to a young person which the registered person believes to be serious. Regulation 40(4)(b)</p>	15/06/2015



## **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 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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