

SC423453

Registered provider: Kedleston (Wood Grove Childcare) Ltd

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is one of a small number of settings operated by the organisation. The home is registered to accommodate four children who have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

Inspection date: 12 February 2018

Judgement at last inspection: good

Date of last inspection: 3 May 2017

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.

All of the requirements and the recommendations made at the last inspection have been met. Managers have maintained an effective focus on the children's needs while improving monitoring and reviewing systems at the home.

The quality of recording varies. The monthly reports sent to social workers are detailed and provide a good picture of a child's current needs and progress. Case records for some of the children are not up to date and contain duplicate information. In addition, transitions plans are not in place for children who are in the process of moving on. The content of records does not reflect the level of scrutiny that the manager takes. The manager recognises that the quality of recording in some files remains an area for development.

Good behaviour is promoted and poor behaviour is managed well. The staff quickly identify when children are struggling and act quickly to help the children to understand the underlying reasons for their behaviour and consider different ways in which they could manage the situation. When any potential for bullying is noted, this is swiftly dealt with through group meetings and individual discussions with the children. The children develop empathy for each other and more positive relationships, and this was observed during the inspection. A child told the inspector that the best thing about the home is (child's name), who is his friend.

Children who come to the home often have histories of committing offences, not attending school and frequently going missing. Many have had several placement breakdowns. The home has helped all of the children to make significant improvements in these areas. In particular, over the period since the last inspection, episodes of children going missing have been significantly reduced. Restraint is used only as a last resort to keep children safe. Sanctions are used creatively to enable the children to learn from their mistakes.

The majority of the children continue to make good progress. Some children's growth and development may not be a smooth process but, at times, come in small steps. The manager and staff provide the appropriate levels of support, advice and challenge to enable them to address any setbacks. A professional spoken to during the inspection said, 'I have only been (child's name) social worker for about two months. He has made slow progress in small steps, but good progress nonetheless, like his attending college, and he is good at sports. Staff really do care.'

Children say that they feel safe here and are helped to keep themselves safe. Prompt and appropriate referrals are made to safeguarding agencies if a concern arises. The manager reviews staff practice to identify and better manage any signs of concern. However, staff induction, supervision and appraisals are not regular. Staff have undertaken core training in most areas, but one member of staff has not completed the required level 3 diploma within the required time frame.

The home routinely seeks feedback from professionals, parents and children. Those seen during the inspection are universally positive, with many appreciative comments about the care provided by staff and children's progress. A professional commented in feedback given to the home, 'The staff are patient, creative and supportive, and not fazed by (child's name)'s emotional storms.' Another commented, 'Staff are very insightful to (child's name)'s needs. They (the staff) are open to new ways of working, there is excellent communication, and (child's name) has settled well and is making progress.'

The provider has appointed a new independent person to carry out visits to the home and report on the quality of care provided. The manager and staff have responded positively to recommendations made in the reports, including those regarding the procedure for and monitoring of the administration of medication. The reports have been submitted promptly to Ofsted.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
03/05/2017	Full	Good
20/02/2017	Interim	Improved effectiveness
15/11/2016	Full	Requires improvement
09/03/2016	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
The care planning standard is that children receive effectively planned care in or through the children home; in particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure that the arrangements are in place to plan for, and help, each child to prepare to leave the home or to move into adult care in a way that is consistent with arrangements agreed with the child's placing authority. (Regulation 14(1)(a), (2)(b)(iii))	31/03/2018
For the purposes of paragraph (3)(b), an individual who works in the home in a care role has the appropriate qualification if, by the relevant date, the individual has attained the Level 3 Diploma for Residential Childcare (England) ("the Level 3 Diploma"); or a qualification which the registered person considers to be equivalent to the Level 3 Diploma. The relevant date is in the case of an individual who was working in a care role in a home on 1st April 2014, 1st April 2016. (Regulation 32(4)(a)(b), (5)(b))	31/07/2018
The registered person must ensure that each employee completes an appropriate induction. The registered person must ensure that all employees undertake appropriate continuing professional development; receive practice-related supervision by a person with appropriate experience; and have their performance and fitness to perform their roles appraised at least once every year. (Regulation 33(1)(a), (4)(a)(b)(c))	31/03/2018
The registered person must maintain records ("case records") for each child which include the information and documents listed in Schedule 3 in relation to each child; are kept up to date; and are signed and dated by the author of each entry. (Regulation 36(1)(a)(b)(c))	31/03/2018

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 difference 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: SC423453

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Kedleston (Wood Grove Childcare) Ltd

Registered provider address: Office suite 1, Ansell Gardens, Holloway Lane, Harmondsworth UB7 0AE

Responsible individual: Paul Brosnan

Registered manager: Laura Craven

Inspector

Cathy Russell, social care inspector

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