

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	06/03/2017
Unique reference number	SC068145
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	Crossways Care Ltd
Registered provider address	Unit B2, Elmbridge Court, Cheltenham Road East, Gloucester, Gloucestershire GL3 1JZ

Responsible individual	Christine Cameron
Registered manager	Antony Tolson
Inspector	Sharron Escott

Inspection date	06/03/2017
Previous inspection judgement	Good
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	
<p>This home was judged good at the full inspection. At this interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has sustained effectiveness.</p> <p>The home continues to provide good-quality care for the young people. The registered manager and his team encourage the young people to aim high and aspire for their future. The young people have lots of opportunities available to them which support them in their education, employment and social development.</p> <p>The two young people who live here are thriving. They have lived at the home for over three years. They continue to achieve success in most aspects of their lives. They are well supported and encouraged by staff. The staff team shares the manager's determination and unquestionable commitment to provide the highest standard of care. This nurturing, child-centred approach is evident in the progress and achievements that the young people have made.</p> <p>One of the young people is due to move into supported living. The young person is well prepared for this transition as a result of the extensive independence work and safety awareness that staff have completed with her.</p> <p>The registered manager is currently considering admitting a new young person to the home. He has been proactive in gaining extensive information about the young person. He has used this information to assess whether the home can meet the young person's needs and to ensure that he will be compatible with the young person who currently lives in the home. The registered manager has invited the young person's family to visit the home and has recommended to the placing authority that, to ensure a robust and successful transition, the young person must have a phased introduction.</p> <p>One of the registered manager's strengths is how well he recognises and responds to safeguarding concerns. He maintains good and effective links with all safeguarding agencies. There has been one reported safeguarding concern since the previous inspection. The registered manager took swift and appropriate action, ensuring that all agencies were notified and that immediate safeguarding strategies were implemented. No further action was required. Despite this, the registered manager has focused on educating the young person on appropriate friendships and has taken personal responsibility for undertaking regular direct work in this</p>	

area.

The management of behaviour is good. The records maintained by the home show that physical interventions and sanctions have not been used and there have not been any missing-from-home episodes or complaints raised by the young people.

The registered manager and his team recognise and reward positive behaviour. Incentives are plentiful, purposeful and individualised. These incentives provide the young people with opportunities that broaden their interests and develop their independence skills. For example, one young person has weekly driving lessons and has recently completed her theory driving test.

Young people continue to live in a home that is well maintained. There is evidence that the young people see the house as their home. Photographs and certificates of achievement are displayed around the home and provide good visual reminders of the positive times and experiences that the young people have had. There are further plans to develop the outdoor area, because the young people enjoy spending time in the decked seating area as well as looking after the chickens.

The requirement raised at the last full inspection has been fully met.

Information about this children's home

The home is operated by a privately owned care company. It is registered to provide care and accommodation for two children or young people who have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties or a learning disability.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
27/07/2016	Full	Good
08/03/2016	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
12/11/2015	Full	Good
26/02/2015	Interim	Sustained 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. Whenever 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 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.

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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