

## Children's homes – Interim inspection

<b>Inspection date</b>	<b>15/02/2017</b>
<b>Unique reference number</b>	<b>SC391739</b>
<b>Type of inspection</b>	<b>Interim</b>
<b>Provision subtype</b>	<b>Children's home</b>
<b>Registered provider</b>	<b>Aspirations Specialist Residential Children's services Ltd</b>
<b>Registered provider address</b>	<b>Unit B/2, Elmbridge Court, Cheltenham Road East, Gloucester GL3 1JZ</b>

<b>Responsible individual</b>	<b>Christine Cameron</b>
<b>Registered manager</b>	<b>Danielle Billingham</b>
<b>Inspector</b>	<b>Sandra King</b>

<b>Inspection date</b>	<b>15/02/2017</b>
<b>Previous inspection judgement</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Enforcement action since last inspection</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>This inspection</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>This home was judged <b>good</b> at the full inspection. At this interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has <b>sustained effectiveness</b>.</p> <p>Young people continue to make good progress and have positive experiences because they live in this home. Since the last inspection, one young person has moved into adult care and another young person has moved into the home. Managers and staff have worked exceptionally well in supporting a young person's move to adult care. The staff have made sure that the young person has settled into his new home and continues to feel valued. The young person's mother wrote to the home thanking them, 'You have been amazing – we, as well as [young person], wish that he could stay with you forever... You have all been friends and like family to [young person].'</p> <p>Managers and staff work hard to make sure that young people who are moving into the home are prepared and visit the home prior to their admission. This ensures that young people have some understanding of the home they will be living in, and have met the staff and the other young people.</p> <p>Young people's school attendance is good. One young person's attendance has increased by 93%. This is helping to improve their educational progress.</p> <p>Since the last inspection, there have been some incidents that have put some young people at risk. The registered manager has responded expeditiously to the incidents to make sure that staff learn from them and that young people's safety is prioritised. The manager has instigated disciplinary procedures when the medication policy has not been followed.</p> <p>One physical intervention record was not reviewed because it was missed by the interim manager, who was managing the home during the absence of the registered manager. This omission has reduced the manager's oversight of the records that help them to monitor staff practice.</p> <p>The registered manager has challenged other professionals when young people have not received an effective service. For example, the registered manager has chaired meetings regarding the 'moving on plan' for a young person to make sure that all of his needs were being met, and that the plan did not need to be changed.</p>	

The home is comfortable and has photographs of young people and staff enjoying themselves on adventures outside of the home. The home is due be redecorated and the young people are getting involved in the process.

## Information about this children's home

This children's home is registered to provide care and accommodation for two children and young people who have emotional and/or behavioural difficulties and learning disabilities. The service is operated by a private provider and has a registered independent special school on-site that children and young people who live at the home may attend.

## Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
04/07/2016	Full	Good
15/03/2016	Interim	Improved effectiveness
11/08/2015	Full	Requires improvement
16/02/2015	Interim	Sustained effectiveness

## 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) meet(s) 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
Ensure that within 48 hours of the use of the measure, the registered person, or a person who is authorised by the registered person to do so (‘the authorised person’), has spoken to the user about the measure, and has signed the record to confirm it is accurate; and within 5 days of the use of the measure, the registered person or the authorised person adds to the record confirmation that they have spoken to the child about the measure. (Regulation 35(2)(b)(i)(ii)(c))	29/03/2017

## **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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