

## Children's homes - interim inspection

<b>Inspection date</b>	<b>02/12/2016</b>
<b>Unique reference number</b>	<b>SC456537</b>
<b>Type of inspection</b>	<b>Interim</b>
<b>Provision subtype</b>	<b>Children's home</b>
<b>Registered provider</b>	<b>Bright Futures Care Limited T/A Cornerstones</b>
<b>Registered provider address</b>	<b>Regency House, 45-51 Chorley New Road, Bolton, Lancashire, BL1 4QR</b>

<b>Responsible individual</b>	<b>Paul O'Leary</b>
<b>Registered manager</b>	<b>Lee Powell</b>
<b>Inspector</b>	<b>Michelle Bacon</b>

<b>Inspection date</b>	<b>02/12/2016</b>
<b>Previous inspection judgement</b>	<b>Improved effectiveness</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 last full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has <b>improved effectiveness</b>.</p> <p>Since the last inspection the manager has made progress in addressing the one shortfall identified at the inspection; senior staff have undertaken supervision training to ensure they are able to provide staff with good support and guidance. Staff benefit from regular supervision that helps to keep them motivated so that they continue provide young people with a high level of consistency and an excellent quality of care. Consequently, young people with autism and additional learning needs continue to make steady progress.</p> <p>All young people are making progress in acquiring new skills and experiences. For some, this involves improvements in self-care, helping to prepare lunch, shopping and increased mobility. One young people enjoyed a holiday in Wales at an autism friendly venue, this helps to promote personal development. Staff continue to work effectively with SHINE therapies to help improve young people’s communication skills. For example, two young people are currently trialling a new electronic communication device in school. Should this proves successful, it will be introduced into the home as well.</p> <p>All young people are in full time education and attend regularly. Staff maintain daily contact with school, including offering additional support in the classroom. This ensures that young people's learning and development is being maximised to help them achieve their full potential. Staff have also liaised with the therapists to ensure the home environment provides both sensory and visual stimulation for all young people.</p> <p>Staff have an excellent understanding of individual triggers that may lead to a young person feeling anxious or distressed. The use of sensory diet routines helps young people to self-regulate. Consequently, periods of upset and distress have reduced in frequency and intensity have reduced for most young people, meaning the use of physical intervention is minimal. The records of physical interventions lack clear evaluation by the registered manager, particularly where advanced holds are used. However, senior managers are currently reviewing these records in order to improve the quality of recording. There have been no safeguarding concerns or complaints since the last inspection.</p>	

Young people benefit from well-managed contact with their families. Staff work positively with family members to ensure safe and meaningful contact, including supporting one young person to regularly communicate with a parent via Skype. This ensures they maintain contact with those important people in their lives.

The monitoring of the quality of care within the home is routinely undertaken by an independent person. The regulator regularly receive copies of the visitors monitoring reports; this provides adequate overview of the home between inspections.

At the time of the last inspection the manager was newly registered. He provides effective leadership and is extremely committed to ensuring the home runs in the best interests of the young people. He demonstrates a good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses; he uses monitoring systems and inspections to ensure the service continues to develop and improve practice.

## Information about this children's home

The home provides care and accommodation for up to four children and young people with emotional or behavioural difficulties, learning disabilities or sensory impairment. It is owned by a private provider.

## Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
30/03/2016	Interim	Improved effectiveness
06/01/2016	Full	Good
12/03/2015	Interim	Improved effectiveness
04/12/2014	Full	Adequate

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

### **Recommendations**

To improve the quality and standards of care further the service should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- Records of restraint must be kept and should enable the registered person and staff to review the use of control, discipline and restraint to identify effective practice and respond promptly where any issues or trends of concern emerge. The review should provide the opportunity for amending practice to ensure it meets the needs of each child.(The Guide to the quality standards, page 49 paragraph 9.59)

## **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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