

SC066481

Registered provider: Fairways Care (UK) Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is registered to accommodate up to five children. Its statement of purpose notes that the children accommodated are likely to have experienced abuse, rejection, previous placement breakdown and exclusion from mainstream education. It is operated by a wholly owned subsidiary of a charity, which has its own educational facility nearby.

The registered manager has been registered with Ofsted since February 2020.

Inspection date: 4 March 2020

Date of last inspection: 24 September 2019

Judgement at last inspection: 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

This home was judged good at the last full inspection.

At the interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has improved effectiveness.

Children are making good progress in an environment where their safety and well-being are central to care practice. There has been a significant change in both the staffing and the culture of the home since the most recent inspection, but this has not impacted negatively on the children.

There is an improved safeguarding structure in place. The manager ensures that staff understand the safeguarding procedures and, as a result, they identify concerns and promptly refer to relevant external agencies when necessary. The outcome of any referral is discussed and reflected upon during team meetings and staff supervision. This ensures that staff learn from any incidents of concern.

Staff have received training in how to de-escalate challenging behaviours and, if necessary, how to safely use physical intervention to keep children safe. Physical intervention has decreased and, when it is used, children are spoken to afterwards to ensure that they understand why. Staff are confident in the way that they work with children, and children feel increasingly safe and cared for.

There is a focus on helping children to have a positive experiences of education. The manager has created an environment of high expectations. All children have school places and attend with the support of a dedicated staff team. One child, however, needs additional support, and there are suitable plans in place for him to attend the organisation's school.

New children placed here experience a clear and well-planned move. The whole staff team and the children already here are involved in preparing and welcoming the new child. Children are consulted about plans for new children to move into the home. Staff are knowledgeable and understand the needs of a child who recently moved into the home. Staff understand the vulnerabilities of each child and know how to keep them safe. However, in one written risk assessment, the risks in relation to child exploitation were not clearly outlined.

Children are provided with opportunities to develop their own interests. For example, one child has been supported to become involved in ice hockey. There are also plans for a group activity holiday this summer, and this will be a new experience for staff and children. The manager is promoting a community spirit in the home. This creates an environment where children can challenge each other, while also celebrating and enjoying each other's achievements.

Managers and staff work well in partnership with others to support the progress of all children. They continue to develop working relationships with the schools that the children attend. They regularly update each other in order to share good practice in terms of how they support the children and to make sure that they understand how each child is experiencing both care and education. Partnership working with placing authorities has improved, and the manager confidently challenges and escalates concerns, if necessary, to highlight any shortfalls in practice and services.

The manager has a clear commitment to continuously improve the quality of care provided to children. He regularly reviews progress and outcomes and ensures that children are achieving success. He has made good use of a feedback questionnaire to children. He has ensured that the issues raised by children were addressed in their individual work sessions with staff. Quarterly newsletters ensure that partner agencies and parents are kept aware of changes and developments.

The provider has addressed all the shortfalls identified at the previous inspection. As a result, practice in relation to recruitment has since improved. All necessary checks are now completed and signed off by the manager. Practice in relation to the recording of physical intervention has also improved. There is both a debriefing to support those involved in incidents and a management review within the required timescales. Systems to ensure the safe administration of medications are now in place.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/09/2019	Full	Good
11/07/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be good
22/05/2017	Full	Good
18/10/2016	Full	Good

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

Recommendations

- 9.5 Staff should continually and actively assess the risks to each child and the arrangements in place to protect them. Where there are safeguarding concerns for a child, their placement plan, agreed between the home and their placing authority, must include details of the steps the home will take to manage any assessed risks on a day to day basis.

In particular, ensure that all risk assessments are reviewed and kept up to date.

Information about this inspection

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.

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people, 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: SC066481

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Fairways Care (UK) Limited

Registered provider address: Fairways House, Alpha Business Park, Mount Pleasant Road, Southampton, Hampshire SO14 0QB

Responsible individual: Jonathan Loney

Registered manager: Bret Noades

Inspector

Vevene Muhammad, social care inspector

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