

Stoneside Flat Care Home Service

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Telephone: 01416 324 052

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
27 November 2024

Service provided by:
Action for Children

Service provider number:
SP2003002604

Service no:
CS2012307351

About the service

Stoneside Flat is a care home service for young people with additional needs. It is a purpose built care home service on one level with a large external garden.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place between 18 and 20 November.

The inspection was carried out by one inspector from the Care Inspectorate.

To prepare for the inspection we reviewed information about this service. This included previous inspection findings, registration information, information submitted by the service and intelligence gathered since the last inspection.

In making our evaluations of the service we spoke with two people using the service spoke with nine staff and management and observed practice. We spoke with three external professionals and had written feedback from one external professional.

During our inspection year 2024-2025 we are inspecting against a focus area which looks at how regulated services use legislation and guidance to promote children's right to continuing care and how children and young people are being helped to understand what their right to continuing care means for them. Any requirements or areas for improvement will be highlighted in this report.

Key messages

- Children and young people experienced nurturing relationships that met their needs.
- Staff turnover had impacted consistency of care.
- Children and young people did not experience restraint.
- The environment was well maintained with a large outdoor space.
- Management had a clear plan for improvement.

From this inspection we evaluated this service as:

In evaluating quality, we use a six point scale where 1 is unsatisfactory and 6 is excellent

How well do we support children and young people's rights and wellbeing?	4 - Good
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Further details on the particular areas inspected are provided at the end of this report.

How well do we support children and young people's rights and wellbeing?

4 - Good

We evaluated this key question as good where several strengths impacted positively on outcomes for children/people and clearly outweighed areas for improvement.

Children and young people were kept safe and were supported by knowledgeable staff who understood their needs. Clear plans were in place to support children and young people to promote their safety and these were reviewed when incidents occurred. The service worked well with external agencies to develop an understanding of children and young people's needs.

Staff turnover had impacted the consistency of support provided to children and young people in the service. A recent management review had identified the need to improve induction and upskill staff to improve their confidence to ensure that children and young people were well supported. Improvement work to address issues identified was underway with the aim of improving the consistency of care for children and young people using the service.

Children and young people had access to children's rights workers who met them regularly to represent their views in decision making forums. The service had a rights based approach to development linked to the Promise at both a service and organisational level. Children and young people were included in their care planning and the identification of goals.

Robust safeguarding policies were in place and staff were aware of their responsibilities in this area which ensured any potential concerns were effectively monitored.

Children and young people experienced therapeutic and stable care which supports their emotional wellbeing. Children and young people in the service were not subject to restrictive practice. Staff were trained in theory to de-escalate situations and protective techniques but no safe holds were used. Staff had appropriate training to understand young people's support and communication needs.

Children and young people experienced spontaneity and fun from staff in the service and had access to a well maintained environment including a large garden area which had recently had a bike track added which provided opportunities for physical activity.

Children and Young People's mental and physical health needs were comprehensively met and staff engaged well with external agencies to ensure outcomes. Medication practice was robust and when issues had arisen with administration this was identified and reviewed by the service appropriately.

The service maintained close connections with family members of children using the service and directly facilitated family time to sustain relationships.

Children and young people had the opportunity to engage in a range of leisure activities including organised clubs. Staffing ratios in the service allowed for individualised interests to be supported. Children and young people had also had the opportunity to go on holiday with the service.

Children and young people were supported to engage with formal education and for young people above school age college attendance or engagement in other structured activity was proactively promoted by the service. Young people over 18 were able to access the service on a Continuing Care basis and there was an

enduring commitment to young people remaining in the service.

SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time bound) planning was in place for children using the service which helped to support positive outcomes. Care plans were comprehensive and identified goals and how these would be evaluated over time. Monthly updates provided to social work helped to evaluate progress made.

Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at www.careinspectorate.com.

Detailed evaluations

How well do we support children and young people's rights and wellbeing?	4 - Good
7.1 Children and young people are safe, feel loved and get the most out of life	4 - Good

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