

## Children's homes - interim inspection

<b>Inspection date</b>	<b>02/02/2016</b>
<b>Unique reference number</b>	<b>SC449155</b>
<b>Type of inspection</b>	<b>Interim</b>
<b>Provision subtype</b>	<b>Children's home</b>
<b>Registered person</b>	<b>The Amicus Community Arundel Limited</b>
<b>Registered person address</b>	<b>The Amicus Community, PO Box 79, Arundel, West Sussex, BN18 9XA</b>

<b>Responsible individual</b>	<b>Rebecca Newton</b>
<b>Registered manager</b>	<b>Stewart Thomson</b>
<b>Inspector</b>	<b>Keith Riley</b>

<b>Inspection date</b>	<b>02/02/2016</b>
<b>Previous inspection judgement</b>	<b>Outstanding</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>Outstanding</b> at the full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has <b>sustained effectiveness</b>.</p> <p>This is a home where there continues to be placement stability. Young people experience their longest and most stable placement ever, often after multiple placement breakdowns. They form excellent attachments to staff. Staff demonstrate an unreserved commitment to the young people they care for. An example is staff coming into the home during a period of planned annual leave to be available at a moment of crisis.</p> <p>Young people have further developed positive and constructive relationships with children in the organisation's other home. They frequently do joint activities. They have fun together. Happy memories are created. Traditions at particular festivals, such as Christmas, are established. Young people have a sense of attachment, identity and belonging. They speak positively of their experiences.</p> <p>Young people continue to make excellent progress, such as in their health or education. A young person spoke excitedly of his acceptance on a local college course. Another young person is now able to use play to express himself, rather than exhibiting negative behaviour toward himself or others. Staff have not had to use any physical intervention since the last inspection. A placing social worker said, '(name of child) is so much more self-aware and able to talk about his feelings.'</p> <p>It is rare for a young person to go missing from care. Comprehensive protocols guide staff in this instance. Staff are diligent at following these. They are confident in their detailed knowledge of each young person to fast-track referrals to the relevant agencies if necessary.</p> <p>Staff fully support young people to express their painful emotions. They are acutely aware as to the impact of events on the lives of the young people in their care. They understand that inner emotions may manifest, for example, in poor behaviour or physical health. They take appropriate action, in consultation with other professionals, to understand the underlying emotional trauma. This enables staff to provide the right support at the right time. Young people are responsive, such as engaging with psychotherapy. A professional said, 'The home has been very</p>	

supportive to the children, they are given lots of time to talk about their feelings.'

The Registered Manager makes excellent provision for staff welfare. He ensures staff have access to the right guidance and advice, outside of the regular clinical supervision if necessary. Staff speak highly of this approach. A member of staff said, 'The support I have had is incomparable with other organisations where I have worked.'

Documentation continues to be an exemplar. Staff keep clear, detailed records. These provide a comprehensive account of each young person's care. Staff are proactive at keeping records up to date and writing new plans or amendments. An example is individual safety plans written for each young person to keep them safe, as they experience significant events in their lives.

The Registered Manager ensures the monitoring of the home is rigorous and robust. He ensures that the independent visitor has all the necessary information to evaluate the provision. Reports are first-rate. He welcomes professional challenge and carries out any recommendations. The senior management have made excellent arrangements, during an anticipated period of absence of the independent visitor, for an alternative professional to visit who is of equal experience and calibre.

The inspector was aware during the inspection that a serious incident that occurred since the previous inspection is under investigation by the appropriate authorities. While Ofsted does not have the power to investigate incidents of this kind, actions taken by the setting in response to the incident were considered alongside the other evidence available at the time of the inspection to inform the judgement.

No requirements or recommendations are made as a result of this inspection.

## Information about this children's home

The home is registered for four young people who have emotional and behavioural difficulties. Young people are admitted from the other children's home nearby, operated by the same private organisation. The home is recognised by a national organisation as a provider of therapeutic care. Young people living at the home attend the organisation's own school.

## Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
06/10/2015	CH - Full	Outstanding
17/02/2015	CH - Interim	improved effectiveness
25/11/2014	CH - Full	Outstanding
20/01/2014	CH - Interim	Good Progress



## **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*.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance *raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted*, which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted). If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, workbased learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It inspects services for looked after children and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence), write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk).

This publication is available at [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted).

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate  
Store Street  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2016