

Scalloway Park Children's Home Care Home Service

Scalloway Park
Fraserburgh
AB43 9FB

Telephone: 01346 516608

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

27 September 2018

Service provided by:

Aberdeenshire Council

Service provider number:

SP2003000029

Service no:

CS2003000280

About the service

Scalloway Park Children's Home operates from a large purpose-built detached house, situated in a residential area on the outskirts of Fraserburgh. The service is owned and operated by Aberdeenshire Council as part of their social work services for children and young people. The service can provide support to a maximum of six children and young people.

The mission statement of the service states their intention:

"To work in a child-centred way, ensuring all aspects of care and wellbeing of a young person are met. We will provide an environment which is safe and nurturing, which promotes and encourages the young people to feel respected, included and responsible, achieving their best possible outcomes."

The service has been registered since April 2002.

What people told us

Five (of the six) young people who lived at the service were around during the inspection, and spoke to the inspector. The inspector was also able to join young people at lunchtime and for their evening meal.

Young people were very positive about life at Scalloway Park and the people who cared for them. They felt involved in the life of the house and generally felt the expectations were reasonable. Some were able to reflect on a time the house was less settled and were pleased that this was no longer the case. Most young people felt they were doing well and had made progress.

Two family members were spoken with. Both felt very welcome when they visited Scalloway Park, they felt communication with staff was good, and were pleased that they remained central to decisions about their child.

Three social workers returned written feedback about the service. This was all very positive - including comments about a high level of care and support, positive relationships between young people and staff, a skilled, knowledgeable staff group and about communication with staff and the manager.

Self assessment

No self assessment was requested by the Care Inspectorate for the inspection year 2018/19. The service had compiled an annual report where they detailed the significant events of the past year and their plan for the forthcoming year.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	5 - Very Good
Quality of environment	5 - Very Good
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	not assessed

What the service does well

Young people were well cared for by supportive and nurturing staff. Staff were really positive about the young people they cared for and optimistic for their future. There was a warm atmosphere throughout the house and caring, respectful interaction between staff and young people. Parents spoken with also reflected a staff team who communicated with them well and included them in key decisions.

Support plans and risk assessments were generally of a good standard and used the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators (Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, Included) to identify the support young people needed. Young people met with their keyworkers regularly and were central to discussion and planning about their care, support and education. There were some very good examples of both individual and successful family work with clear and focussed goals. Where beneficial other external groups were also involved in supporting young people and their families.

Young people were doing well in education. Some had made remarkable progress in their school attendance, both in terms of attendance and achievement. Good communication supported achievement, with care staff meeting regularly with teaching staff where this was beneficial to young people's continued progress. It was encouraging to hear some young people speaking with real pride about the progress they had made in school.

The healthcare needs of young people were well met, with young people accessing a range of services to ensure their positive physical and mental health. Where medication was needed this was well-managed, with good storage, recording and auditing systems in place.

Young people were encouraged to develop useful life skills. At the time of the inspection they were seen to be helpful around the house generally, and also to develop life skills through cooking nights and general household chores such as helping with dishes and laundry.

A forthcoming team development day was to be used to discuss a greater focus on life skills for those young people preparing to leave the service, and to ensuring they had the skills to succeed once they moved to a more adult living environment.

A comprehensive Child Protection policy was in place. Staff had received appropriate training in relation to child protection. Training was part of the formal induction process for new staff and then, was revisited as staff were more experienced. All staff spoken with were aware of the appropriate procedure should they have a concern.

Young people had meetings where they were able to discuss a range of topics important to them. One meeting had been without staff present and had some very good discussion around expectations, sanctions and activities. Young people's views were then shared, via a meeting minute with response column, to staff who had responded timeously to all points made. Young people also had the opportunity to discuss their views with people external to the service, such as Who Cares? Scotland and the local authority Champions group. These groups supported young people to express their views about important issues, and to have those views represented.

Young people lived in a purpose-built house with single bedrooms. Communal areas were bright and spacious, well maintained and decorated. The dining kitchen was well used as a central hub for meals and relaxed discussion. A living room and homework/craft room allowed young people to have options about where to spend their time.

Regular safety checks were carried out by staff to ensure the day-to-day environment was safe and well maintained. Any remedial maintenance work was arranged through Aberdeenshire Council and provided by appropriately skilled tradesmen. The house was well maintained and provided an attractive home for the young people who lived there (though see below).

What the service could do better

As stated above support plans were generally of a good standard, however, could be further improved by ensuring targets are SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, reasonable, time-specific), and not 'ongoing' or 'as required'. There was, however, real evidence of the progress young people had made so there is no suggestion this had deterred from that.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Complaints

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

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings
8 Sep 2017	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership 5 - Very good
19 Jul 2016	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership Not assessed
9 Jul 2015	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership 4 - Good

Date	Type	Gradings	
14 Oct 2014	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 4 - Good
25 Jun 2014	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 4 - Good
18 Jul 2013	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 5 - Very good 5 - Very good 4 - Good
4 Feb 2013	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good
12 Jan 2012	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good Not assessed Not assessed 5 - Very good
13 Jan 2011	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	5 - Very good Not assessed Not assessed Not assessed
1 Jul 2010	Announced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 4 - Good Not assessed Not assessed
27 Jan 2010	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good Not assessed 5 - Very good Not assessed

Date	Type	Gradings	
20 Jul 2009	Announced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good
29 Jan 2009	Unannounced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 4 - Good Not assessed Not assessed
29 Oct 2008	Announced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 3 - Adequate 3 - Adequate 3 - Adequate

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