

The background image shows a city street at night. In the foreground, there is a fountain with several vertical jets of water illuminated with bright green light. The water jets are of varying heights. The ground is paved with square tiles. In the background, there are buildings, streetlights, and a few people walking. The overall scene is illuminated by the green light of the fountain and the streetlights.

OFSTED Inspection at Upper Pendeford Farm Short Break Centre December 2018

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WOLVERHAMPTON
COUNCIL

Our mission:
Working as one to
serve our city

Background

- Upper Pendeford Farm (UPF) provides respite support for up to six young people who are at risk of coming into care and also to children and young people in care who are at risk of a placement breakdown
- The centre is inspected by Ofsted every year. This is a two-day, unannounced inspection
- UPF received their most recent inspection on 19 and 20 December 2018

What do Ofsted look at?

- Overall experiences and progress of children and young people
- How well children and young people are helped and protected
- The effectiveness of leaders and managers
- Inspectors speak to the manager, staff, young people, parents/ carers and other relevant professionals e.g. social workers

What did Ofsted find at UPF?

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people - Good

“Staff have high aspirations for young people and provide an environment where young people can thrive and flourish.”

“Young people look forward to staying at the home and feel happy.”

“The excellent matching skills of the manager and staff mean that young people are in groups that help them to thrive and to feel settled.”

“...varied activities enable young people to build their social skills, friendship groups, self-esteem and confidence.

“Young people have various opportunities to express their wishes and feelings”

What did Ofsted find?

How well children and young people are helped and protected – Good

“The manager and staff are highly motivated and passionate in their care of young people. Young people receive specialist help around the risks of child sexual exploitation, self-harm, anti-bullying, radicalisation, knife crime, gangs and violence, county lines and sexual health. This multi-agency support helps young people to make safer decisions”

“Staff see the use of physical intervention as a last-resort measure..... staff use restorative practice instead to promote young people’s safety and to build positive relationships”

What did Ofsted find?

The effectiveness of leaders and managers – requires improvement

“Risks identified in young people’s healthcare plans are generally cross-referenced in their risk assessments. However, one young person’s risk assessment does not have all the risks identified in their health plan. This creates a missed opportunity...”

“The recruitment of most staff is safe. However, there is a lack of clear recording about enquiries made to chase up on staff members’ employment history”

“Staff speak highly of the manager. They feel supported by him..... the manager does not always monitor whether the staff are completing their mandatory training”

“The manager and senior managers breached their conditions of registration by agreeing to accommodate one young person to stay for more than 17 days in a single placement..... this decision was made because of exceptional circumstances”

Overall Ofsted Judgement

Ofsted found that :

The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for
GOOD

Areas of strength

- The inspector was overwhelmed by the fantastic work being done at UPF with young people
- Young people and parents/ carers spoke extremely positively about the support provided at UPF
- Good quality direct work with young people to address issues and build independence skills
- Young People are safe and listened to

Areas for improvement

- Maintenance of the building – repairs and work to the building need to be completed in a timely manner to ensure all hazards are avoided
- Recruitment – ensure all staff including sessional workers have appropriate experience, qualifications and skills to do the jobs and check all references
- Risk assessments – ensure health assessments, behaviour management plans and risk assessments are cross referenced so that information is consistent
- Training – ensure all staff complete mandatory training and keep a record of all training completed
- Length of short break- no single short break must exceed 17 days.

Thanks for listening, any
questions?