

Summary for children and young people

Name: Shine Fostering

URN: SC457831

Date of inspection: 05 June 2017

Dear Children and Young People,

My name is Christine and I work for Ofsted. As well as inspecting schools, Ofsted inspect independent fostering agencies like Shine Fostering, where your foster carers went to find out if they could foster children and young people just like you.

It was an absolute pleasure meeting with some of you as part of the inspection and talking to some of you on the telephone. Meeting with children and young people in foster care is a very important part of the inspection as it helps me to understand what it is like and how I can help to improve things for you if needed. So, a massive thank-you to all of you who helped me with the inspection and answered all my questions about Shine Fostering. My email is on the bottom of this letter and I am always interested to hear what you have to say about what you like and do not like about Shine Fostering or anything else. So if you did not have a chance to speak with me and would like to, then please get in touch.

I judged your fostering services as good and that the care your foster carers give you is of a high quality, making sure you stay healthy, get a good education and stay safe.

Khushbir, Beverley and the rest of the Shine Fostering team are providing you with some excellent services. It seems like you can get involved with things if you want to, through the 'Camp Off,' and other organised events. I loved the animation on the agency website, which I know some of you were involved in making. It is fantastic, it helps children, and young people who are coming into foster care to understand what is happening and who can help and support them. It also seems you can get some extra support with things if needed from Khushbir and her team, which is great to hear. Everyone needs some help sometimes and I found all the workers at Shine Fostering were good at understanding the things that worry you and tried hard to be helpful for you and your families when things were a bit tricky.

I thought there were some things that Shine Fostering could improve on. Firstly, I asked Khushbir and the team to make sure that all the necessary information and planning is in place, so that your foster carers know everything they can about you when you first move in. Secondly, I asked that Khushbir and the team get better at making sure you are fully included in your foster families and listen to your views about any concerns you have. Lastly, I asked Khushbir and the team to keep me updated about any complaints or incidents that happen, to ensure you are all kept as safe as possible.

Overall, I was impressed with Shine Fostering and by all of you, I hope you agree...
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Best wishes

Christine

Ofsted Inspector – Christine.kennet@ofsted.gov.uk