

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC005204
Inspection date	13/03/2014
Inspector	Pamela Nuckley
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	07/11/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This service, operated by a private organisation, provides integrated packages of care, therapy and education for a maximum of six children with reactive attachment difficulties.

The inspection judgements and what they mean

Good progress	The children's home has demonstrated continued improvement in quality of care and outcomes for children and young people and where appropriate has addressed all requirements and the large majority of recommendations that were raised at the previous inspection.
Satisfactory progress	The children's home has maintained quality of care and outcomes for children and young people and where appropriate has addressed all requirements and the majority of recommendations that were raised at the previous inspection.
Inadequate progress	The children's home has failed to address one or more requirements and/or has not met the majority of recommendations and/or the quality of care and outcomes for children and young people have declined since the last full inspection.

Progress

Since their previous inspection the service is judged to be making **good progress**.

At the last inspection in November 2013, the overall effectiveness rating of the home was outstanding. The home has made good progress since the last inspection. Young people remain well-cared for and safe, which has allowed them to make significant progress in several areas. Five young people contributed to the inspection process and appeared happy and comfortable in the presence of both staff and visitors.

Young people are extremely complimentary about the home, staff and the care that they receive. Young people said 'staff are brill', 'I'm really happy here' and 'I am safe here.' Young people said that the hobbies and activities in this home are great and that this keeps them occupied. Young people told the inspector that they all do different hobbies. These include a running club, bike club, Cubs, Taekwondo, kick boxing and St Johns ambulance. This shows that young people are encouraged to explore individual interests. Further to this, young people also enjoy activities such as, going to the cinema, park, bowling and ice skating. Young people are rewarded for positive behaviour or achievements with larger activities such as Theme parks or vouchers of their choosing. For example, one young person entered and won(name of town) has got talent competition. They received vouchers from the

home in recognition of this. Therefore, young people are afforded the same opportunities as their peers, are involved in the community and learning new skills. In the words of one young person 'we are never bored, it's great fun, we do not have time to get in trouble and I have made more friends.'

Young people say that they can influence decisions or developments within the home. They spoke to the inspector about discussing forthcoming holidays in their young people's meetings. Some of the young people wish to visit places around their heritage within the United Kingdom, especially where their parents were born. Staff say this will assist young people to have an understanding and knowledge of their background. Other young people said that they had been able to influence extended bedtimes, decoration of their rooms and choice of key workers. Therefore, young people said that they were fully consulted on their care. Further to this, the manager consults with a range of professionals and parents to ensure that the service continues to develop. One social worker said '..... (Young person's name) progress is amazing; the commitment from the staff has made a massive difference to his progress. Well done.'

Young people rarely go missing from this home. When this does occur, the home works closely with the missing from home coordinator of the police and with independent services that address issues of safety with young people. The police visit the young person on their return. Young people also have a return interview to see if there are any underlying issues of why they went missing. This ensures that young people are able to express their reasons, that risk assessments are fully updated and that any concerns or issues raised can be fully addressed. Staff demonstrated that they were fully aware of the 'missing from home' protocol for the area. Staff say that their priority is to ensure that young people are safe and well.

The majority of young people placed at this home attend the company's school. Young people said that they were doing well in school. One young person said 'I got a gold award for coming top in my recent exams and I got a twenty pound voucher.' Other young people talked about the new art teacher and how good she was. They talked about making things from plants and twigs. Two young people proudly showed the inspector their papier-mâché dragons which are proudly displayed in their bedrooms. As a result, young people are enjoying school and have excellent attendance.

Good monitoring systems review the quality of care and identify areas where outcomes for young people can be improved. Therefore, monitoring of the home is effective and reports of monitoring are completed in a timely manner. Young people, professionals and parents are consulted as part of this process and the information gained is used to support the development plan of the home. No requirements or recommendations were set as a result of this inspection.

About this inspection

The purpose of this inspection is to assure children and young people, parents, the public, local authorities and government of the quality and standard of the service provided. The 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 relevant regulations and meets the national minimum standards.

The report details the progress made by the provider since the last full inspection, identifies any further strengths, any areas for improvement and makes judgements as outlined in the *Inspection of children's homes – framework for inspection*.