

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC005204
Inspection date	23/01/2012
Inspector	Pamela Nuckley
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	20/07/2011
--------------------------------	------------

© Crown copyright 2012

Website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

This document may be reproduced in whole or in part for non-commercial educational purposes, provided that the information quoted is reproduced without adaptation and the source and date of publication are stated.

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 (March 2011)*.

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.

Service information

Brief description of the service

This service provides integrated packages of care, therapy and education to a maximum of six children with reactive attachment difficulties.

Progress

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

This home was judged a good home at the last full inspection in July 2011. The home has demonstrated continued improvement in the quality of care. Children and young people's welfare is enhanced by the good relationships that exist between staff and young people. Young people and children now also benefit from individual placement plans which are highly tailored to each individual. The plan has been improved to clearly include consultation in all areas with young people. This will ensure that young people are an integral part of them.

Children and young people are supported to make progress across several areas of their lives, particularly in education, health and behaviour. There has also been continuing improvements in outcomes for children and young people across these areas. Children and young people have extremely good attendance at school and are positively engaged with a vast range of educational activities provided by the home and school. The new paperwork in place now shows how young people's achievements are celebrated. On the day of inspection one new young person spoke enthusiastically about attending the company's school and had just been shopping for their school uniform.

Young people are encouraged to eat healthily. One young person says 'I really like chilli con carne and I pick that on the menu every week. I have only been here a short while but I can see why some stuff is not good for you. The staff are really good at explaining why we need to eat well.' As a consequence, young people are choosing healthier options.

The home's complaints system is transparent and is understood by the young people in placement. The transparency shows that verbal grumbles and withdrawn complaints are still investigated to ensure that any concern is dealt with rigorously and that young people are actively listened to. Young people are confident in expressing their opinions about the operation of the home and are at ease in discussing their issues and views with members of staff. One very new young person was able to name four other independent services that they could contact if they were unhappy. They said that staff had gone through the welcome booklet with them and made sure that they understood all of their rights.

Staff are very well supported by the manager who has a strong commitment and

focus on improvement. Staff are highly motivated, well organised and clearly understand their roles and the expectations placed upon them. This is then reflected in the improving outcomes for young people.

The home has established regular and comprehensive quality assurance systems which monitor the quality of care practices within the home and identify any areas requiring improvement. The manager of the home acts promptly to rectify any highlighted shortfall and to take the necessary measures to further improve particular areas of the service.