

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC005553
Inspection date	04/12/2012
Inspector	Sarah Oldham
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	01/06/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home is run by a private organisation and provides care and accommodation for up to seven young people with emotional and/or behavioural 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 **satisfactory progress**.

Following the last inspection on 1st June 2012, the home received an overall effectiveness judgement of outstanding. No requirements or recommendations for improvement were made.

Young people are making satisfactory progress in their overall outcomes and development. They say that they have really good relationships with staff who they trust and feel safe with. However, there has been an increase in some young people missing from home. The staff follow all agreed procedures and continue to try and engage young people in maintaining agreed times for returning to the home. Staff work closely with other agencies to provide consistent support and these measures have had some impact in addressing the on-going missing from care episodes.

Young people contribute their wishes and feelings to the running of the home through regular young people's meetings and key-worker sessions. They say that they feel valued by staff and that the home is a, 'Really great place to live.'

The home also actively encourages parents, carers and professionals to voice their

views about the care and support provided. This ensures effective communication and understanding of the progress made by young people. Where agreed in placement plans, family members are made to feel welcome in the home. This enables them to have a continued involvement in their child's life.

Placing social workers state that staff are proactive in communicating how the young people are progressing and say that this information is comprehensive and clearly demonstrates how settled the young people are.

The staff group in the home has remained largely stable, which means that young people have benefitted from receiving consistent care. Robust recruitment procedures ensure that the safety and well-being of young people is effectively promoted.

The home continues to demonstrate a clear and consistent commitment to ensuring that the care, support and outcomes for young people remain central to all aspects of the ethos of the home. Care plans are consistently reviewed and evaluated to ensure they clearly reflect the care and support needs of young people. They enable staff to provide comprehensive support and respond to the individual needs of the young people at the home. However, some documentation relating to one young person has not been received from placing social workers as required. The home therefore does not have all the necessary information regarding the care needs of this young person. A requirement for improvement relating to this matter has been made.

Areas for improvement

Statutory Requirements

This section sets out the actions which must be taken so that the registered person/s meets the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes Regulations 2001 and the National Minimum Standards. The registered person(s) must comply with the given timescales.

Reg.	Requirement	Due date
28 (2001)	ensure that that children's home records include the information, documents and records specified in Schedule 3 relating each child. (Regulation 28 (1)(a)	07/01/2013

Recommendations

To improve the quality and standards of care further the service should take account of the following recommendation(s):

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*.