

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC005589
Inspection date	22/02/2013
Inspector	Anthony Kyem
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	22/08/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home is registered with Ofsted to provide care and accommodation for up to two young people on a medium to long-term basis in preparation for future placements with foster carers, rehabilitation home with family, or independent living. The home is operated by a private provider.

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 previous inspection the home's overall effectiveness was judged to be adequate. The home has made good progress since the last inspection. It has met all of the requirements and previous recommendations made.

There are effective systems in place to promote health and safety within the home. Contractual safety inspections to the home's electrical, gas and fire safety appliances are all kept up to date and repairs to a faulty smoke detector have been completed. Consequently, young people benefit from a physically safe environment.

The standard of young people's accommodation has improved since the previous inspection. The home has been re-decorated and new carpets have been fitted, where required. There ongoing improvements being made to further improve the quality and standards of young people's accommodation. As a result, young people benefit from homely accommodation.

Young people have access to the services they need to promote their good health

and well-being. Medical consent has been obtained to ensure that staff are clear about what responsibilities and health decisions are delegated to them. Young people are successfully engaged in education to promote their attainment and achievement. However, not all young people benefit from personal education plans, to promote their needs and aspirations. As a result, staff may not be familiar with the individual goals that young people are working towards.

Young people benefit from a stable, skilled and qualified staff team. They receive continuity of care to develop their relationships and they sustain their positive attachments. Young people's files contain all of the information that staff need, to promote their needs effectively. Their plans are well written and young people are now consulted about these, to promote their knowledge and understanding of them. Consequently, young people know and understand their plans for the future.

Risks associated with young people's risk taking behaviours are identified clearly. Staff know what to do to promote young people's safe return if they go missing from the home. There has been a positive reduction in the number of unauthorised absences. Restraint is only undertaken by trained staff to keep young people safe from harm. Restraint records now include the details of the action taken by staff to avoid the need for the use of that measure. This enables the manager to scrutinise the records to promote safe practice.

Areas for improvement

Recommendations

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

- ensure that young people are supported by staff to achieve their educational goals by ensuring a personal education plan is maintained for all young people. (NMS 8.4)

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*.