

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC005751
Inspection date	04/03/2014
Inspector	Anthony Kyem
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	10/12/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

A private organisation operates this children's home. This service is registered for one young person with emotional and 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 **good progress**.

The home was judged to provide young people with good quality care, at its previous full inspection. The home has made good progress, addressing all of the previous recommendations made.

The home's policies and procedures for reporting young people missing from care are now compatible with those maintained by the police and the local authority. Consequently, there is a joint multi-agency approach to protect young people who go missing. The home's development plan is currently being reviewed to promote its continuing development and improvement.

Young people's complaints and concerns are investigated and taken seriously. The home can demonstrate that young people's complaints are promptly acted on. The recording of complaints has improved and records now include the outcome and action taken, to address them. There have been no complaints made by young people since the previous inspection.

The manager ensures young people benefit from a physically safe, appropriately secure and hazard free environment. The accommodation provided for young people

is maintained to a very high standard. The home continues to provide young people with safe, suitable, comfortable and homely accommodation.

Young people are protected from abuse, bullying, neglect and sexual exploitation. Staff adhere to safe working practice. Staff are appropriately trained in safeguarding methods and effectively ensure young people are kept safe and protected from all forms of significant harm. Young people's positive behaviour is promoted and the use of sanctions and restraint, if used at all, are kept to an absolute minimum. There have been no sanctions or restraints since the previous inspection.

Staff share and implement the home's ethos, approach and philosophy, in caring for young people. They act as positive role models so young people have appropriate adults, they can look up to and learn from. Staff maintain positive relationships with young people and there is mutual trust and respect between them. Young people's views about their care and their relationships with staff, are consistently positive. Young people report, 'Everything's going well, the staff are sound.'

Young people are allowed to take reasonable risks to promote their personal growth and natural development. Young people benefit from the support they need to develop practical skills to enhance their independence. However, they do not have appropriate plans prepared by the placing authority to promote their smooth transition to adulthood. The home has requested these from the placing authority to secure them.

As a result of this interim inspection, there is one recommendation made to ensure young people have a pathway plan to support their transition to independence.

Areas for improvement

Recommendations

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

- ensure the home contributes to the development of each child's care plan, including the pathway plan, for eligible care leavers. (NMS 12.2)

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*.