

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC008268
Inspection date	03/09/2012
Inspector	Louise Redfern
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	04/05/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home provides care and accommodation for up to two young people with emotional or behavioural difficulties. It is part of a large organisation operating a number of children's homes.

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**.

At the last inspection in May 2012, the overall rating for the service was judged as good. Three recommendations were made in relation to maximising individual young people's achievement, ensuring all staff are appraised and effective information sharing within the staff team. Satisfactory progress has been made since the last inspection with all the recommendations being addressed.

Young people live in a home that is warm and nurturing. One young person commented, 'I like it here, I feel very safe, I'd score the house nine out of 10.' Young people now engage in extra homework sessions, supported by the staff team and their teachers to ensure their learning is maximised and any potential barriers to education are overcome. As a result, young people's handwriting for example has greatly improved.

Leadership and management of the home is good ensuring that practice remains focused on effectively safeguarding vulnerable young people. The staff team benefit from regular supervisions that are underpinned by focused team meetings. As a

result, young people are fully supported by a knowledgeable and consistent staff team. All staff have undertaken an annual appraisal. This ensures that they are setting clear goals and targets to improve individual work practice. This further supports young people to improve their outcomes.

Young people who live at this home are not stigmatised in the local community because the whole staff team have established good relationships with neighbours. Young people are encouraged to make and maintain appropriate friendships in the community. The manager has maintained the quality of care for young people provided by the home.

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)*.