

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC008274
Inspection date	07/02/2012
Inspector	Michelle Spruce
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	24/08/2011
--------------------------------	------------

© 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

The home is one of five children's homes owned by a private company. It is registered to provide care for two young people with emotional or behavioural difficulties.

Progress

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

At the last inspection in August 2011, the overall quality rating for the service was judged as outstanding. There were two requirements and one recommendation for improvement made in relation to the garden, fire safety and making sure young people had medical attention following a restraint. Good progress has been made since the last inspection and all of the improvements have been made.

Young people now benefit from a safe and welcoming garden because the home has replaced the derelict brick wall with a wooden fence. The home has a clear fire evacuation plan that outlines where the appropriate fire fighting equipment is located. This maintains the safety of young people. The physical intervention record now shows if medical advice has been offered to the young person. Staff confirm that there have been no incidents of physical restraint since the last inspection. As a result, young people remain safe from harm.

Significant changes to the staff, fire safety and the garden have improved the health safety and well-being for young people. Staff take a committed and dedicated approach to working with young people. They have built strong and trusting relationships with young people. As a result, young people continue to thrive in a warm and welcoming environment that meets individual needs.

Young people benefit from good health support plans that identify their individual needs and the support required to promote their well-being. As a result, young people gain important access to the necessary services to help improve their physical and emotional health.

Young people have made significant improvement in their education achievements. Staff working with young people within education told them 'well done you are making very real progress and your conscientious, mature approach deserves praise, congratulations. I am so proud of your achievements; you are a real credit to the school.'

Staff actively respond to young people's concerns, wishes and feelings. Young people confirm that they feel listened to because staff have supported requests to have friends around for tea. As a result, young people benefit from contact with important

people significant to them.

The manager continues to evaluate the quality of care and regularly updates the home development plan. Further monitoring of the home takes place during the Regulation 33 and 34 visits. The manager receives feedback regarding the impact of the service to neighbours through questionnaires. The manager evaluates them and acts to improve the quality of service. The leadership and management are effective because the manager takes prompt action is taken to address any shortfalls and works hard to improve staff practice.