

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC008600
Inspection date	27/11/2012
Inspector	Stella Henderson
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	07/06/2012
--------------------------------	------------

© 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.

Service information

Brief description of the service

The home is privately owned and is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to six children and young people of either sex, aged between 11 and 17 years of age.

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 received a full inspection in June 2012 and was judged to be satisfactory overall. Two requirements were raised relating to recruitment practice and Regulation 33 monitoring reports. Recommendations were also raised in relation to the emergency escape plan, planning for independence and monitoring of the home's practices and procedures.

The manager has improved safety and outcomes for young people by meeting both requirements and all of the recommendations. She has also achieved improved outcomes for young people, which ensures they now receive a good quality of care.

For example, there are reductions in missing from home incidents and offending behaviours. Young people are also better engaged in education, some with ambitions to return to mainstream schooling. All young people maintain good attendance at school and work placements. They have seen improvements in contact arrangements, personal appearance and self-esteem. Young people have also enjoyed the benefits of improved diet and nutrition, which has enabled some young people to lose weight and improve their general well-being.

Developments have been implemented by the manager with regard to some of the home's procedures and paperwork, specifically amendments to placement plans which helps young people to engage better with the planning process. Other documentation has also been amended which helps make reporting processes clearer and more accountable.

Young people have benefited from work undertaken to improve the fabric and appearance of the home. This has included redecorating all young people's bedrooms and lounge. Reorganisation of the staff office has also helped this to be more conducive to efficient and safe working practices.

The staff team remain committed to promoting good outcomes for young people and are supported to do so. They work closely and effectively with social workers, police and other agencies in order to achieve this. The manager ensures that young people are protected through a number of measures, including thorough risk assessments, regular monitoring and frequent communication with a range of statutory and other agencies. This contributes to the effective management of risk and as a result young people are safeguarded in this placement.

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*.