

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC013553
Inspection date	20/02/2013
Inspector	Jennie Christopher
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	12/09/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home is privately owned and provides care and accommodation for up to 9 males 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**.

At the last full inspection in September 2012, the overall quality rating for the service was judged as good with two requirements and two recommendations made. The home demonstrates continued improvement in the quality of care provided with a commitment to developing the service. A particular strength of the home is the focus on ensuring young people have a valuable living experience and that they are prepared for their future.

At the last inspection the home was required to record fully all the required information in restraint records, and ensuring Ofsted were notified of all notifiable incidents as required by regulation. Restraint records have been satisfactorily revised. Ofsted are now notified of events without delay. The recommendations made at the last inspection have been fully met. All supervision records clearly show the time and length of the meeting, ensuring staff are receiving an appropriate amount of support. The use of window restrictors has been reviewed with risk assessments provided for young people where required. Therefore, allowing increased safety for individuals without imposing similar restrictions on other young people.

Young people continue to receive extremely well planned care from a committed and competent staff team. Young people have a positive view of the care that they receive, saying it is a 'good home'. Relationships with staff are positive and young people confirm that they feel safe. Staff set clear and consistent boundaries for young people, and discuss the impact of behaviour with them. This enables young people to positively manage their own behaviour, whilst recognising how it is impacting on others. Young people are encouraged to work through issues they have with each other and to constructively challenge each other when appropriate. The high staffing ratio ensures young people benefit from the support and attention they require to access activities while keeping safe. Young people engage in varying activities, such as fishing basketball and other leisure activities, as well as practical skills such as cooking, budgeting and menu planning. To further develop young people's social and practical skills, they are undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, which they are enjoying. The culture within the home celebrates individuality and achievement, which is demonstrated through newly introduced individual achievement books, which young people are proud to show off.

There is effective use of routine monitoring of the home. Since the last inspection, extensive work has been done to evaluate the service resulting in an updated and improved development plan. The areas identified include better ways to scrutinise sanctions used and their effectiveness and a complete review of all the homes policies and procedures.

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*.