

## Inspection report for children's home

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| <b>Unique reference number</b> | SC018238        |
| <b>Inspection date</b>         | 04/03/2014      |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | Simon Morley    |
| <b>Type of inspection</b>      | Interim         |
| <b>Provision subtype</b>       | Children's home |

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|--------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Date of last inspection</b> | 10/09/2013 |
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## Service information

### Brief description of the service

This is a privately owned children's home. The home is registered to provide care and accommodation for one young person with emotional or behavioural difficulties.

### The inspection judgements and what they mean

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Good progress</b>         | 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. |
| <b>Satisfactory progress</b> | 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.                                  |
| <b>Inadequate progress</b>   | 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 last full inspection of the home was on 20 September 2013. The overall effectiveness and all other judgements at that time were good. This included outcomes for children and young people, the quality of care, safeguarding and leadership and management. There were no areas for improvement.

Young people living in the home make good progress in their lives and there has been improvement to how the progress of young people is tracked and evaluated. As a result the home is judged to be making good progress.

Monitoring by the Registered Provider has continued to improve with a clear focus on the progress young people make. This helps ensure the quality of care young people receive provides them with good outcomes. For example monitoring reports include how staff are supporting young people to improve their behaviour, keep healthy and stay safe.

The Registered Manager has reviewed the format of in-house care plans to focus more in the progress of young people and the outcomes they are achieving. This helps highlight how well young people have done since their admission and areas

where young people need more support. One identified issue is young people's struggle to engage successfully in education. In comparison with their starting point on admission young people are making some progress in this area.

Young people enjoy a homely environment and staff support them well to build trusting relationships with adults. This is a key achievement given the past experiences of young people and placement instability before coming to live at this home. The caring support helps young people take more responsibility for their actions and learn to cope better with challenging situations. Young people benefit from the consistent boundaries and caring, professional approach from staff. Young people's behaviour improves significantly from the support given to them by staff. There is significant reduction in young people's risk taking behaviour since admission and risks of re-offending have substantially diminished.

Young people struggle to achieve regular school attendance most days. The manager is working with other agencies to plan additional support for young people to improve their education. Young people do engage in project work such as a 'Living History' project but do not complete any written work as part of this. Compared to long periods of exclusion prior to admission this is some initial progress.

Young people take a pride in their appearance and work well towards being independent. They are able to complete a range of tasks, washing, ironing, shopping and cooking. Young people travel independently often using their bicycle, take regular exercise and eat healthily.

Young people have a good say in what happens in the home and their day-to-day care. They benefit from regular one-to-one time with staff; this helps them talk about any issues, and have a say in their care and their future. Young people pursue their individual hobbies such as going to the gym and trips out to places on interest.

There is one identified area for future improvement in relation to the level of education young people receive.

## Areas for improvement

### Statutory Requirements

This section sets out the actions which must be taken so that the registered person/s meets the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes Regulations 2001 and the National Minimum Standards. The registered person(s) must comply with the given timescales.

| Reg.         | Requirement                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Due date   |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 18<br>(2001) | promote the educational achievement of children accommodated in a children's home, in particular by ensuring that the children make use of educational facilities appropriate to their age, aptitude, needs, interests and potential<br>(Regulation 18 (1) (a)) | 30/04/2014 |



## 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*.