

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC020611
Inspection date	19/02/2013
Inspector	Dawn Bennett
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	24/10/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This home is registered to accommodate up to three young people of either gender with emotional and behavioural difficulties. The service is owned by a private company.

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 was judged as good at the last full inspection which took place in October 2012. It is judged to be making good progress following this interim inspection. There were three recommendations made as a result of the last inspection. One has been met and two are on-going.

Good progress is being made with regard to the home's décor. Work has been undertaken to a good standard. Remaining work forms part of the home's development plan with clear timescales for completion. In addition to the recommendation made in the last Ofsted report, staff and young people continue to personalise the home; hanging wallpaper, displaying photos and recently revamping the games room with new equipment.

Good progress has been made with regard to staff training, in particular, those staff needing to have completed their induction. Staff have not accessed any key training that is additional to mandatory training but the Registered Manager has started to organise in-house training. The first training session is being run by an external agency. Further training will be identified in the home's development plan.

The Registered Manager and staff team are clear of the aims and objectives of this good quality service. Key strengths continue to be the well-established staff team and partnership work they undertake with parents and professionals. This has resulted in young people reducing high risk behaviours, re-engaging in education, developing independence skills and developing a positive self-view and emotional resilience. Young people and social workers have consistently positive views about the quality of care provided by the service. One social worker stated 'Since being placed the young person has matured and formed positive relationships. He sees the staff team more as a family. He knows if he wants something he can ask. He also knows I talk regularly to staff and we agree strategies and approaches and work towards agreed goals.'

Staff view young people positively and there is a resulting relaxed, family atmosphere where staff and young people enjoy each other's company. Relationships are respectful and staff are non-judgemental towards young people. A young person stated 'Staff are nice and joyful. They are brilliant and always friendly. You can rely on them. If you are down you can talk to them'.

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*.