

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC023741
Inspection date	08/02/2013
Inspector	Paul Clark
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	18/09/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This privately owned children's home is part of a large, childcare organisation situated in the South East of England which has 15 registered children's homes, three educational teaching facilities and a fostering service. The home provides care and accommodation for up to three young people aged between 11 and 17 years.

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 previous inspection, which was carried out in September 2012 the home was judged to be outstanding. No recommendations were made or breaches of regulation identified.

The home now has a full staffing complement and all staff have either achieved the Children's Workforce Development Council award or are undertaking it. Staff are also encouraged to undertake higher qualifications. This ensures that children are cared for by staff who have the necessary skills and knowledge.

Continued improvement has been made in supporting children educationally, with care staff attending the school facility or helping children with extended home studies.

Staff at the home continue to be reflective in their practice and adopt an inclusive policy, with weekly residents' meetings and agency forums giving children the opportunity to contribute to service development.

The home continues to practice an effective behaviour management system and maintains an effective policy with regards to action to be taken by staff should children go missing. No children have gone missing from the home since the time of the previous inspection. The resident group has not changed since the time of the previous inspection and the staffing group have remained the same, with one additional staff member being appointed. This provides children with stability and consistency and is indicative of an outstanding service.

No recommendations have been made, or breaches of regulation identified as a result of this inspection.

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*.