

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC025712
Inspection date	04/02/2013
Inspector	Stella Henderson
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	10/10/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The children's home is run by a charity. It provides accommodation for up to two young people with emotional and behaviour difficulties and/or learning disabilities, on a medium or long-term basis.

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 inspection the home was judged to be good overall with outstanding features. The home has continued to improve its high standards of care and the manager continues to play a significant role in sustaining quality outcomes for young people.

Since the last inspection young people have enjoyed success in their learning and education, for example earning accreditation at their place of work. They continue to be afforded optimum opportunities to feel safe and supported by staff who keep young people's health, welfare and overall development central to their practice.

Young people's all round independence skills have increased. This includes accomplishing practical tasks such as cooking for themselves more and household tasks. Increasingly young people are successfully developing their communication skills, language ability and general behaviour. These are important aspects of coping with transition and adulthood. With respect to young people with complex needs, these small improvements represent big steps in terms of their emotional literacy, self-determination and independence.

For instance, young people are spending more time on their own away from adults, gradually separating from staff and becoming more like 'teenagers'. They are able to have full, meaningful conversations and can now engage in forward planning and identify what they want to achieve in terms of small tasks and projects. Young people have grown in confidence and are able to make clearer choices about their day-to-day lives. They have also enjoyed an increase in family contact.

The manager has implemented new recording systems to enable staff to better capture young people's views and the quality of care they receive. She continues to monitor the home effectively to ensure that young people receive the best quality care.

A requirement to gain consent from social workers to use low level surveillance was raised at the last inspection, along with a recommendation to address a number of recording issues. This inspection found that these have been met.

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*.