

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC032475
Inspection date	04/01/2012
Inspector	Anthony Kyem
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	11/05/2011
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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 (March 2011)*.

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.

Service information

Brief description of the service

The home provides care and accommodation for up-to-five young people of either sex from 11 to 17 years of age. The home is registered with Ofsted to provide services to young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties. Young people receive care on a medium to long-term basis. The home's primary purpose is to support young people to return home, wherever possible.

Progress

Since their previous inspection the service is judged to be making **good** progress.

The purpose of this unannounced interim inspection was to look at what progress the home has made since the previous inspection. This included looking at the arrangements made to promote health and safety, the effectiveness of the leadership and management and the extent to which young people are able to influence the running of the home. Compliance with the recommendations made at the previous inspection, were also looked at. At the last full inspection the home was judged to be a good service. This judgement rating has not changed as a result of this inspection.

All of the recommendations made at the previous inspection have been met, successfully. This has resulted in the improved recording of young people's placement plans and the revision of the children's guide. As a result, young people's needs are recorded comprehensively and the children's guide contains updated information for young people to refer to. For example, the contact details of the Children's Rights Director are now included within the guide. The home has also devised a written development plan to focus on improving the standards and quality of young people's care. There are effective systems in place to review the home's performance to further support sustained improvement of the service.

Young people are able to contribute towards the running of the home and they are actively involved in all decisions which affect them. As a result, young people are able to make a positive contribution towards their care. Young people continue to benefit from a well managed home which is staffed by skilled, well qualified and capable staff.

Young people say they enjoy living at the home and they feel safe and well supported. An ex-resident of the home states, 'when I was here I hated it, but when I look back I wouldn't be who I am today without the help and support of xxx ...They were caring and supportive towards me...It's a great environment... I was always listened to and my point of view was always taken into consideration'.

Health and safety within the home is promoted effectively and this ensures young

people benefit from a safe and homely environment. The home's aims and objectives are being achieved and young people's positive outcomes are promoted effectively. There are no issues with the management of young people's behaviours. Safe working practices are adhered to and young people benefit from excellent levels of individual support to promote their well-being and safety.

No requirements or recommendations are made as a result of this inspection.