

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC032496
Inspection date	03/02/2014
Inspector	Anthony Kyem
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	05/06/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This Local Authority children's home provides care and accommodation for up to six young people of either gender from 11 to 17 years of age. The home is registered with Ofsted to provide services to young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties.

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 to provide young people with good quality care, at its previous inspection. Following that inspection the home has made good progress addressing all of the previous recommendations made.

The home has reviewed and updated its Statement of Purpose to include details of new staff working at the home. Fire evacuations tests are now monitored and conducted more effectively to ensure young people are protected and they know how to evacuate the home, safely. Significant events are notified to the appropriate authorities promptly to ensure appropriate action can be taken to protect young people, if necessary. There are positive arrangements made to promote young people's safety.

The home provides young people with a physically safe, comfortable and homely environment. The home's location and design takes account of the needs and characteristics of young people. Staff ensure all aspects of the accommodation provided for young people is maintained to high standards. Health and safety within

the home is promoted, effectively.

Young people benefit from a consistent and stable staff group. Young people have constructive relationships with staff and they sustain their positive attachments. Young people say, 'I love it here to tell you the truth. I want to stay here permanently. The staff actually care for you. It's a lovely place...They give you opportunities to turn your life around. I really do enjoy it, we have a laugh here.'

Young people's positive behaviour is actively promoted. The use of restraint, if used at all, is only ever used as a last resort to protect young people from harm, accident or serious injury. The use of sanctions are exceptionally rare and their use is kept to an absolute minimum. Should young people go missing there are effective arrangements to promote their safe return. There has been a positive reduction in young people going missing.

Staff share and implement the home's ethos, approach and philosophy in caring for young people. They provide young people with a safe, caring, nurturing and supportive environment that promotes their needs effectively. A young person reports, 'All of the staff helped me settle in and it felt like home.'

Young people feel involved and consulted because they are able to influence the running of the home. Staff regularly consults young people about their care and welfare. They provide young people with positive opportunities to express their views, feelings and opinions. As a result, young people feel listened to and able to contribute to key decisions that affect them. There are no requirements or recommendations made as a result, of this inspection. Young people continue to benefit from high quality provision.

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*.