

Inspection report for children's home

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Inspection date	19/10/2011
Inspector	Anthony Kyem
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	15/06/2011
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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 six 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.

Progress

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

At the last full inspection the home was judged to be outstanding.

The purpose of the visit was to look at what improvements the home has made since the previous inspection. Young people and staff were spoken with and the effectiveness of leadership and management was looked at to evaluate the home's performance and its capacity to improve. There were no requirements or recommendations made at the previous inspection and none are made as result of this visit.

The home provides young people with an excellent standard of quality care. Relationships between young people and staff are extremely positive and young people benefit from the care and support provided to them by highly skilled, qualified and experienced staff. The home demonstrates continued improvement in the quality of young people's care and it promotes young people's positive outcomes effectively.

Young people enjoy living at the home and they feel safe and extremely well supported. Young people said, 'I like it, it's a nice place to live. I was made to feel welcome. I really like the house and we get praised for doing the right things. The best thing is the activities and the kindness of staff. It's good because you get everything you need.'

The home is the process of minor refurbishment and some re-decoration work is taking place to improve the standards and quality of young people's accommodation. Young people's bedrooms are highly individualised and these are personalised in accordance with young people's needs, feelings and wishes. This is as a result of young people's requests and shows that young people are listened to. All young people receive extensive support with their education to promote their educational achievement and attendance.

Young people benefit from a home that is managed very efficiently where young people's health, welfare and safety is at the centre of the home's practice. Young people enjoy outstanding quality care because the home's performance is monitored efficiently and there are effective arrangements made for reviewing the standards

and quality of young people's care. A recent independent visitor said, 'Friendly atmosphere, always a warm and cheerful reception to visitors. The staff are knowledgeable and dedicated to the work they are doing.' Another stated, 'I was impressed by the way the staff are encouraging the young people to take up voluntary work. The keeping of memory boxes is also a good idea.'

The attachments young people make with staff are outstanding so much so that young people often come back to visit the home.

Areas for improvement