

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC035339
Inspection date	25/03/2014
Inspector	Sarah Oldham
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	23/01/2014
--------------------------------	------------

© Crown copyright 2014

Website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

This document may be reproduced in whole or in part for non-commercial educational purposes, provided that the information quoted is reproduced without adaptation and the source and date of publication are stated.

Service information

Brief description of the service

This children's home is owned and managed by a local authority. The home can accommodate six young people and has been set up specifically to provide care to young people with emotional or behavioural difficulties. It is anticipated that young people will live at the home on a medium to 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 of this home in January 2014, the overall effectiveness was judged to be outstanding. Since that inspection the home has continued to ensure outcomes for young people are positive and has made good progress.

The manager has taken action on the recommendation made at the previous inspection and this has been fully met. The number of sanctions put in place remains low and they are reviewed to assess their effectiveness in supporting young people to address their behaviours. This means that there is robust monitoring of behaviour management strategies to support young people to learn and develop appropriate behaviour.

Young people benefit from being supported by a consistent, well trained, experienced and highly motivated staff team. They demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the young people's needs and individual plans for short term and longer term support. Staff say that they receive regular, high quality formal supervision as well as access to regular training and development opportunities.

They also take part in comprehensive handovers and regular staff meetings. This ensures that all staff work together effectively to provide continuity of care and support, thereby enabling young people to continue to make good overall progress.

All young people remain in education either in school or college placements. Where required they are provided with additional independent tutors to further support them to achieve good educational outcomes. This has enabled young people to achieve good results in their exams and college courses. Health care needs also continue to be supported and met well. Young people are able to lead healthy and active lifestyles. They have access to healthy diets and a range of activities to further promote good health. Where young people have had identified issues with substance or alcohol misuse, detailed intervention plans and referral to a range of support agencies is in place to support young people to address these behaviours. The impact of this is that young people have a greater understanding about how smoking, alcohol and drug misuse impacts on their health and are provided with support to decrease or stop these habits.

The home continues to be managed effectively. The manager, with support from the deputy managers, provides strong leadership. This ensures that the well-being and positive outcomes for young people remain the central ethos of the home.

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*.