

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC035657
Inspection date	13/03/2014
Inspector	Angela Whiteley
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	03/12/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This service is a privately run children's home. It is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to seven children or young people with emotional and/or 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**.

At the last full inspection in December 2013, the overall judgement of the home was outstanding. Since then, the Registered Manager and staff have demonstrated a strong determination to improve the running of the home and outcomes for young people. These remain good, which ensures young people benefit from a service that continues to improve.

Young people are protected by strong child protection measures with regard to staffing, health and safety, bullying and behaviour management. Relationships between staff and young people are a particular strength of this service; as a result, sanctions and physical interventions are minimal. A consistent and experienced staff team are highly motivated, well organised and clearly understand their role and the expectations placed upon them. They deliver a strong child-focused service that helps young people fulfil their aspirations and achieve their potential. Staff work closely with social workers, police, youth offending workers and other professionals that have an interest in supporting young people to achieve good outcomes across

all aspects of their welfare and development.

Outcomes for young people continue to improve. For example; the number of 'missing from home' incidents and risk-taking behaviours has reduced significantly. As a result, young people benefit from improved contact arrangements, are better engaged with education, attend health appointments and participate in activities, such as regular attendance at a local gym. This develops their skills and abilities and broadens their social networks in a positive and appropriate way. The home has taken appropriate steps to ensure further education opportunities are available to young people to enable them to continue their learning. Young people confirm this is a good home to live in and that they want to stay.

The Registered Manager has made adjustments to documentation and is committed to meeting the forthcoming changes in regulation. He demonstrates a strong commitment to ensuring the home presents as a homely and comfortable environment to promote young people's safety and well-being. Monitoring systems are robust and effective; this enables the Registered Manager to deal promptly with any practice or recording issues that arise.

Young people continue to live in a safe, secure and caring environment where there is regular dialogue and consultation. The home continues to be effectively and efficiently managed. The Registered Manager provides strong visible leadership and is supported by an enthusiastic and competent deputy manager. Together with a committed staff team they promote good quality care and positive outcomes for young people.

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*.