

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC036240
Inspection date	09/01/2013
Inspector	Judith Longden
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	08/08/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home is operated by a local authority and provides medium- to long-term care for up to six young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties. There is a flat to enable young people to acquire independence skills.

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**.

This home was judged as good at the last full inspection in August 2012. There were no requirements or recommendations made as a result of the last inspection.

This home demonstrates continued improvement in the quality of care provided and outcomes for young people. A particular strength of the home is the inspirational management team and the motivated staff team who are committed to provide a quality service and promote positive outcomes for young people.

Young people enjoy very good outcomes in all areas. A recent holiday has provided young people with new and exciting experiences and developed their confidence and self-esteem. All young people receive some form of education and most are achieving to a very good standard. Staff are active in securing the appropriate educational package for young people who find mainstream school difficult.

Young people benefit from excellent contact arrangements and staff facilitate contact with family members where required. They are encouraged to make and sustain friendships with their peers and staff welcome friends and family to share activities.

Staff also provide support for parents and help them gain skills in parenting. One parent commented on the support they had received from staff saying, 'I couldn't have asked for anything better.' Young people continue to benefit from an excellent independent living programme to ensure transition to adulthood is as smooth as possible.

Young people take an active role in their care and participate in regular one-to-one meetings with staff. Some young people have begun to take notes of their meetings providing a record of the discussions and action points. This has enabled young people to reflect on their discussions, identify their progress and develop confidence in their abilities.

Young people are positive about the care they receive and enjoy good relationships with staff and with each other.

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*.