

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC045408
Inspection date	24/03/2014
Inspector	Jennie Christopher
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	08/10/2013
--------------------------------	------------

© 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 local authority managed children's home is registered for two young people of either gender. The home facilitates assessments while providing short to medium-term placements including emergency and crisis placements.

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 October 2013, the overall quality rating for the service was judged as adequate with four requirements and six recommendations made. The home demonstrates significant service development in response to the short falls identified at the last inspection. A particular strength of the home is the experienced staff team who form supportive relationships with young people to enable them to progress.

The requirements set at the last inspection have all been met and in some cases exceeded the expectation of the requirement. The Statement of Purpose has been updated to reflect the upcoming changes in regulations and includes the process for accommodating young people in an emergency. The document identifies the importance of ensuring the compatibility of young people who live in the home. Notifiable events are now being informed to Ofsted via telephone in the first instance and followed up with the written copy to ensure all relevant agencies are informed without delay. The behaviour management policy has been updated to reflect practice within the home. It states on the use of ground restraints to be only be used as risk assessed for the individual young person. However the main focus of the

document is on de-escalation and managing incidents through positive relationships with young people. Should an incident occur a restorative approach is favoured to enable young people to rebuild and 'make good'. In addition emotional health professionals effectively support staff to understand individual young people and how to manage their unwanted behaviour. There is a significant improvement in consultation with young people, parents and relevant partner agencies in Regulation 34 reporting. The Registered Manager recognises there is need to develop this area of consultation and has consequently devised systems to gain more views from significant people. The six monthly evaluations of managers monthly monitoring are forwarded to Ofsted as required.

Recommendations set as a result on noted shortfalls at the last inspection have all been met. With regards to health and safety, regular fire drills are recorded including the time of the drill and time taken to evacuate the building. Environmental visual assessments are now completed daily by staff and any concerns noted to the Registered Manager through the daily log book. The annual risk assessment will still be completed in addition to the daily checks. The organisation wide young people's individual risk assessments have been adapted to better reflect their needs, including how to work with young people to reduce the risk. The Registered Manager is developing this system further to ensure risk assessments are relevant and useful for staff and young people. Two recommendations are un-judged as the home has had no emergency admissions since the last inspection to which they relate.

In addition to the extensive work to meet and in some cases, exceed the requirements and recommendations since the last inspection, the young person's guide has been revamped. The document has been developed into an induction pack with adolescent focused bite size leaflets and fliers containing all information young people need on admission and through their time living in the home. The effectiveness of the service is continually being evaluated and changes made as deemed necessary. The Registered manager and senior are working to ensure the home is compliant with the upcoming changes in regulations. Young people continue to receive well planned care from a very committed and experienced staff team. The atmosphere within the home is warm and friendly, and as a young person stated 'more like home' than previous placements. Observed interactions demonstrate nurturing and boundaries relationships between staff and young people. As a result young people are able to progress in line with assessed needs.

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*.