

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC047978
Inspection date	28/01/2013
Inspector	Elizabeth Tanner
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	29/08/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home, owned by a company that provides care and accommodation for up to four young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties. There is also a school on site where young people can access education if this is appropriate to their needs. The home is set within a 14-acre site which contains a small working farm, also owned by the company.

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 good at the previous full inspection in August 2012. This interim inspection judges that the home is making good progress and has taken action to address the two requirements and three recommendations from the full inspection. No breaches of regulation or shortfalls in meeting the national minimum standards are identified as a result of this inspection.

The Registered Manager is confident that progress has been made since the last inspection. Notifications are now sent to HMCI so that the regulatory body is properly informed about modifiable events. Staff files have a record kept of the telephone enquires made to referees as part of the selection process. This ensures that the record of recruitment decisions are complete and managers are able to evidence effective practice in ensuring only suitable people are appointed to posts. Changes to restraint recording includes details about the location of the restraint. This ensures records are compliant with the regulations and any review of incidents has full and accurate information to enable effective evaluation.

Young people are cared for by a stable and qualified staff group who confirm that the frequency of supervision has improved since the last inspection. There is a programme of on-going training in the home. Staff are receiving training for specific issues such as mental health awareness and supporting family contact. Through this, staff are supported and helped to develop good practice and offer high quality care.

Young people are regularly consulted about their care, activities and their future. Staff promote the individuality of each young person by getting to know them well and responding to their wishes and needs. Outcomes for young people have continued to improve. For example, young people who have a lack of confidence and poor self-esteem now attend education and are achieving. Health outcomes are improving through effective support from staff and close working with mental health services. Young people do not go missing from this home so risks in relation to this form of behaviour are very low.

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*.