

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC049189
Inspection date	27/02/2013
Inspector	Mandy Williams
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	14/12/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home provides care and accommodation for up to three young people, who may be experiencing emotional or behavioural difficulties. The home is owned and managed by a private 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 **satisfactory progress**.

At the present time there are no young people resident in the home. There have been no young people placed at the home during the last six months. However, the Registered Manager has considered potential referrals during this time and plans to be operational again in the near future.

In the interim, the Registered Manager and staff have been deployed to other homes in the organisation. Staff meetings have continued to take place to support team cohesion and allow staff time to focus on their primary work place. Staff are available to return to the home when required. There are some staff vacancies that the Registered Manager is currently in the process of filling. Interviews have already taken place.

The home has successfully addressed the two recommendations that were made at the last inspection, which took place when young people were resident in the home. Records of any sanctions administered are now recorded in a bound and numbered volume; and work has taken place to improve the standard of décor in the home.

Much of the home has received redecoration and some new carpets have been fitted so that it is warm and welcoming. However, a recent issue has arisen with the function of the boiler that heats part of the home. The Registered Manager is anxious to address this quickly, so that it does not prevent the home's ability to admit young people.

While the home has been empty the internal and external monitoring of the home has continued to take place. These reports have been forwarded to Ofsted as required. They have continued to highlight issues that needed to be addressed, such as routine checks on the operational status of the fire extinguishers in the home. Issues identified have been completed. The Registered Manager has also recently updated the home's Statement of Purpose. Thus, demonstrating that the home remains suitable to accommodate young people in the near future.

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*.