

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC062674
Inspection date	05/03/2012
Inspector	Julia Toller
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	09/06/2011
--------------------------------	------------

© Crown copyright 2012

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.

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 (March 2011)*.

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.

Service information

Brief description of the service

The service, run by a private organisation, is registered to care for up to four young people, with emotional and behavioural difficulties.

Progress

Since their previous inspection the service is judged to be making **good** progress.

At the last full inspection, the home was judged as good. The children's home has demonstrated a good improvement in the quality of care and outcomes for young people. Relationships between staff and young people continue to improve, with staff continuing to strive to find ways of gaining the views of young people. The views and opinions of those who access the service are used to influence the home's operation and future direction.

One requirement was made at the last inspection about broken window restrictors and one recommendation was made about fire safety checks.

Since the last inspection, window restrictors have been repaired or replaced and this has improved the safety of young people. Fire safety checks are being completed at intervals required by the fire officer, which helps to make this a safe place for young people to live.

Following a safeguarding allegation at the home, the safeguarding policy has been updated. This is currently with staff for consultation to ensure they understand the correct procedures to be followed. Discussions with staff show that they are clear about what to do in these circumstances to ensure that young people are safe. The home has identified a designated person to coordinate safeguarding concerns and allegations, with training planned to assist with this role.

Staff take appropriate action to address the behaviours of young people living at the home to ensure placement stability; with young people taking responsibility for their behaviour. The physical restraint of young people is rare and is well recorded.

Good outcomes are being achieved and young people continue to receive a good standard of care from a competent and qualified staff team. The manager stimulates the enthusiasm of staff and channels their efforts effectively. It is a good child-focused service that is conducive to young people developing their potential.

The promotion of young people's education, health and well-being are good. All young people are engaging with their education programmes and their attendance continues to be good. This helps young people to maximise their educational opportunities and potential.

The home's aims and objectives are being fulfilled and there are realistic targets outlined within the home's development plan to improve the service. There are good monitoring systems in place. These systems are used to monitor the operation, management, records and welfare of young people and to improve the service. However, these are not fully in line with the regulations in that copies of Regulation 34 reports are not yet being forwarded to Ofsted.

Areas for improvement

Statutory Requirements

This section sets out the actions which must be taken so that the registered person/s meets the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes Regulations 2001 and the National Minimum Standards. The registered person(s) must comply with the given timescales.

Reg.	Requirement	Due date
34 (2001)	ensure that HMCI is supplied with a report in respect of any review conducted by the home, in particular, reports following the monitoring of the home in line with Regulation 34. (Regulation 34 (2))	31/03/2012

Recommendations

To improve the quality and standards of care further the service should take account of the following recommendation(s):