

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC063318
Inspection date	18/03/2014
Inspector	Maria McGranaghan
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	20/12/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This is a children's home for up to three young people with emotional or behavioural difficulties or learning disabilities. The home is 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**.

The purpose of this visit is to assess the progress made since the last inspection and how any progress has improved the quality of care and potential outcomes for young people.

At the last inspection on 20 December 2013 the home was judged as outstanding. The Registered Manager was asked to take account of two recommendations made to improve the quality of care provided in the home.

The home is judged as making satisfactory progress.

The managers monitoring of the home is improved. The manager has developed a suitable system to review the care management of the home on a weekly basis. Information is used to highlight emerging patterns and trends and this is used to update and review the care planning process within the home.

Young people's safety is prioritised in the home. Good safeguarding systems are in place and are routinely developed in partnership with external agencies.

Consequently there have been no young people missing from the home since the last inspection.

Young people benefit from educational placements that meet their individual needs. Young people receive a high level of support in order to maintain their educational placement. Staff say, 'We work hard to help young people back into education. We understand it can be hard for them, but we help them to understand that it is essential to their future,' As a result, both attendance and attainment are consistently improved.

Young people continue to benefit from a highly committed, knowledgeable and enthusiastic staff team. Staff demonstrate a clear commitment to enabling young people to reach their goals and create positive opportunities in order to generate good outcomes for young people.

The external monitoring of the home takes place at regular intervals and a copy of the report is provided to Ofsted within suitable timescales. However, although a new system for external monitoring has been developed by the organisation this is not yet in use. As a result, external monitoring continues to lack a clear evaluation of the care provided in the home and areas for development. As a result, one recommendation is repeated following this inspection.

The home shows the capacity to improve.

Areas for improvement

Recommendations

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

- ensure visits to the home carried out by Regulation 33 includes an evaluation of the care provided in the home and areas for development (NMS 21.7)

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*.