

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC063813
Inspection date	13/01/2012
Inspector	Elizabeth Barrett
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	08/08/2011
--------------------------------	------------

© 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 home is registered for up to six young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties. It is owned and operated by a private organisation.

Progress

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

At the full inspection in August 2011, the overall quality rating for the service was judged as good with no requirements or recommendations made.

The Registered Manager and staff team at this home demonstrate continuous improvements in the quality of care young people receive, with positive outcomes achieved for all young people. This includes young people making excellent progress and continuing to flourish, develop, and achieve individually across all areas, and particularly in education, family contacts, behavioural management, and individualised activities.

Young people have very good attendance at school and college placements, with positive engagements in a range of individual activities, and social contacts. Young people spoken to proudly displayed certificates and medals of achievements in school, and for others, the cadets, and cross-country running championships. The home prioritises contact arrangements for all young people. Arrangements are in place that enables them to spend time with their families and those of significance in their lives. One young person has re-established visits to a family member after many years, following a successful contact over the festive period.

The home has worked efficiently and effectively with young people to progress their individual care planning needs. Social workers and placing authorities through feedback sheets comment, 'the home has adopted a consistent and qualitative approach in ensuring the young person achieves to their full potential'.

Young people speak highly about their care and support in the home. It is evident that they enjoy positive relationships with staff and each other. These constructive relationships have significantly influenced the young people's engagement levels with the home across all areas. Young people reflect on how the staff team have supported them to develop life skills and behave more appropriately. Regular consultations take place with young people. Examples being, areas of practice and development such as the allocation of activity money and the reintroduction of personal room keys. Young people comment positively that staff listen to, and when possible act on their wishes and needs.

Young people are cared for by a stable staff team, who demonstrate a strong

commitment to meeting the care and support needs of young people. The home is well managed and leadership is effective and consistent. Regular monitoring and quality assurance checks ensure young people are safe and secure. The home is undertaking a programme of substantial refurbishment, with a kitchen area for young people to make drinks and snacks recently completed.

Relationships between staff, managers, and young people are warm, caring, and respectful. Managers have the welfare of young people and staff at heart. They are fully committed to ensuring the provision of a high quality service, while demonstrating aspirations for the achievements of positive outcomes for all. Young people are happy in this home, stating that, 'staff help you in every way; I've made lots of progress and get along with everyone now.'