

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC064666
Inspection date	03/01/2013
Inspector	Louise Redfern
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	26/04/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This children's home is registered to provide care and accommodation for two young people with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. The home is privately owned.

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**.

At the previous full inspection, in April 2012, the overall effectiveness of the service was good. There were two recommendations and one requirement set to address shortfalls. Good progress has been made in fully addressing the requirements and recommendations.

A requirement was raised in relation to ensuring all medication is safely stored and to ensure that young people who are able to self-medicate, can do so safely. The manager has introduced a system to record all homely medication in the home. This ensures that he has an overview of homely medication in the home. The manager also completes monthly audits of all medication held at the home. Young people who are able to self-medicate medication can do so safely now through thorough risk assessments. This ensures young people have a clear understanding of any risks associated with the particular medication and learn how to manage their own health needs as part of their individual independent living skills programme.

The manager has fully addressed the two recommendations made at the full inspection. All staff now benefit from regular supervision. This ensures that all staff are supported through regular and effective supervision and practice in the home

continually improves. As a result, a knowledgeable and consistent staff team supports young people to improve their outcomes.

Since the last inspection, the manager has ensured that all the relevant authorities have been informed of significant events. The manager has ensured at a structured team meeting that the staff team are aware of the notification process. The company has effective and comprehensive policies and procedures in place to underpin practice within the home, to safeguard young people.

Young people are engaged in the placement and thriving. They are consulted formally and informally as part of everyday life and readily voice their opinions. They make appropriate choices and their views are central to how the home operates. Their suggestions for recent changes to the home ensure a more homely environment.

A well-established and committed manager and staff team care for the young people and have high aspirations for them. In meeting the requirement and recommendations raised at the last inspection, the manager has demonstrated good progress and an on-going commitment to improving the quality of care provided for the young people. Particular improvements have been made in the development plan. The development plan is now focused on improving practice in the home to meet the individual needs of the young people in placement.

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*.