

Inspection report for children's home

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Inspection date	13/12/2012
Inspector	Debbie Foster
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	30/05/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This privately run children's home provides care for up to four long-term placements for young people aged from 12 years old up to 17 years old.

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**.

This interim inspection focused on the progress made by the home since the last full inspection in May 2012, at which the overall judgement was adequate. The home is making good progress because the young people who live at the home are preparing well for independence, making improvement in their general behaviour within the home and have increased educational attendance and achievements.

The provider has responded appropriately to a compliance notice issued to address training deficiencies relating to physical intervention training not being up to date and in place for all staff to ensure the welfare and safety of young people. All staff working at home have undertaken behaviour management and physical intervention training in October 2012.

The manager and staff team have taken action to address the requirement and recommendations made at the full inspection. Staff follow and implement the risk assessments and behaviour strategies for each young person. This ensures young people are supported consistently and risks are reduced to keep them safer. Young people receive all required health care check-ups including immunisations. Staff have received training on health promotion, including the effects of smoking and

presenting positive role models for young people. This supports improved health outcomes for young people. Staff are working well with educational providers to support young people in maintaining good educational attendance and making educational progress. This brings improved opportunities when they look for employment after they leave education. The home is continuing to support young people in developing life skills, such as cooking and budgeting skills. This assists in preparing young people for adulthood and living independently. Staff demonstrate suitable awareness of the home's policies, procedures and the national minimum standards, which assists them to provide suitable and good care to young people. New dining furniture has been replaced to ensure the home is suitably furnished to provide a comfortable environment for young people to live in. Monitoring systems have been built upon; this includes reviewing the progress being made by young people relating to their health, education, behaviour and safety. This ensures their individual needs are being met and they are making progress in their lives.

Staff work effectively with young people's families to ensure contact is well supported. For example, staff have helped a young person repair and rebuild relationships with a family member, resulting in positive contact. Staff are committed and recognise the importance of building strong and trusting relationships with young people. As a result, young people are positively engaging with staff and are making progress in education, behaviour in the home and independence skills. A young person said the best thing about living at the home, 'is the staff'.

One shortfall has been identified during this inspection and relates to the service not submitting a summary of the manager's monitoring to Ofsted as required, twice a year, to show the service is being effectively monitored to demonstrate how the home is working to improve the quality of care and outcomes for young people.

Areas for improvement

Recommendations

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

- ensure the reports to monitor the matters in Schedule 6 are compiled at six monthly intervals and a copy of every report sent to Ofsted within 28 days of completion. (Volume 5, Statutory Guidance, paragraph 3.14)

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*.