

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC066048
Inspection date	10/01/2013
Inspector	Janet Hunnam
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	31/05/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This privately owned children's home is registered to provide care and accommodation for one young person who has emotional and /or behavioural difficulties.

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**.

At the last inspection in May 2012, the home was judged as good for overall effectiveness. Four requirements were made to improve the service.

The home has in place a revised system for recording incidents of physical intervention and the use of sanctions. Records of physical intervention now include details of any injuries sustained during physical intervention. Records of sanctions include the effectiveness of the measure ensuring that staff consider the appropriateness of the consequence of young people's action. Young people are protected in an emergency as staff have received First Aid training.

The home has detailed procedures in place when young people leave the home without permission. Staff are proactive and liaise closely and collaboratively with local police to safeguard young people. However, the procedures do not include the local police protocol for young people who are missing from care.

Young people continue to receive high quality care from a committed and

experienced staff team. Comprehensive and detailed behaviour management plans and risk assessments, which are regularly reviewed, enable staff to apply boundaries consistently and allow young people to develop appropriate behaviour. Highly individualised support based on the specific needs of young people provides opportunities for young people to make progress. However, currently young people's outcomes are limited and impeded by their emotional and psychological difficulties, though staff strive to put strategies in place to enable young people to make progress.

Leaders and managers provide effective monitoring of the service to maintain high standards of care within the home and ensure that the well-being of young people is at the centre of practice in the home. Thorough and detailed monthly Regulation 33 reports positively contribute to maintaining high standards of record keeping and securing improvement. There is an effective system in place to deal with complaints. There is a system in place to notify the appropriate parties in relation to significant issues relating to the protection of young people. However, there is one incident that was not notified to the authorities.

Staff promote young people's independence allowing them to develop the skills required for the transition to adulthood balancing, the need to protect and safeguard young people with the requirement to promote responsibility and self-reliance. Young people work towards a life and living skills award to increase their knowledge and ability and prepare them for changes when they leave the home.

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
16 (2001)	ensure that a procedure to be followed when any child accommodated in the children's home is absent without permission has regard to any relevant local authority or police protocols on missing children (Regulation 16(4)(b))	22/02/2013
30 (2001)	ensure that if any of the events listed in column 1 of the table in Schedule 5 takes place, the registered person shall without delay notify the persons indicated in respect of the event in column 2 of the table. (Regulation 30(1))	22/02/2013

Recommendations

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

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*.