

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC066115
Inspection date	06/03/2012
Inspector	Monica Farrimond
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	28/09/2011
--------------------------------	------------

© 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 run by a privately owned company and is registered for a maximum of four young people who have emotional or behavioural difficulties. There is a facility to educate young people on site if they are unable to maintain their current school placement.

Progress

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

This interim inspection has focused on the progress made by the home since their last full inspection, in which they were judged to be outstanding. The children's home has demonstrated continued improvement in the quality of care and outcomes for children and young people. The young people benefit from sound consistent practice, underpinned by thorough, comprehensive placement plans.

Young people benefit from positive relationships with staff and understand that staff are there to promote their best interests. The promotion of equality is strong. Staff consistently treat young people as individuals and respect and value their culture and family history. Young people's wishes are valued and actively sought.

The views of the young people are also used to influence the operation of the home. This helps to promote self-esteem and confidence. This has included young people choosing the daily menus, activities and being involved in the redecoration of the home. Young people are able to contribute positively to statutory reviews. They do this through attending reviews, talking to staff about their feelings and completing pre-review questionnaires.

Young people are confident that their concerns will be taken seriously, and are clear about what to do should they need to make a complaint. The management have a positive approach to concerns, and learning and improvement is part of the ethos of the service.

Young people's care plans including health care plans form the basis of their care. They are regularly updated to reflect individual needs and strengths. This ensures that young people's needs are met and their progress is monitored.. Young people's placements are structured to meet their individual needs; behaviour management plans are consistently used and regularly reviewed. Social workers and other relevant professionals are involved in ensuring the quality of young people's placements by visiting and talking with the young people regularly.

Young people thrive in a nurturing, supportive environment, with clear structures and boundaries in place. The staff are fair but firm. Staff implement positive behaviour

strategies which helps young people to develop positive and constructive behaviour. The strategies are individualised and age-appropriate helping to ensure that they are successful in promoting good outcomes for young people; this has resulted in a significant improvement in the behaviour and attitudes of young people.

The home's aims and objectives are being fulfilled. There are good quality assurance systems being used to monitor the operation, management, young people's welfare and the home's records. Realistic and challenging targets are outlined within the home's development plan. Good monitoring systems are used that comply with the requirements of regulation.