

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC066115
Inspection date	13/03/2014
Inspector	Caroline Jones
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	24/09/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This children's home is one of a number of homes operated by a private organisation. It is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to four young people with 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 **good progress**.

At the previous full inspection in September 2013, the home's overall effectiveness was judged as adequate. The service to young people continues to improve and the seven recommendations and three requirements from the last inspection have been fully addressed. For example, young people now have independent access to advocacy services and their views are taken into consideration during staff appraisals. Additionally, organisational policies and procedures have been updated in relation to recruitment and safeguarding. These developments have contributed to the good progress made by the home.

Young people enjoy good relationships with staff, which is the foundation for managing behaviour very well. Staff successfully use positive behaviour management strategies, risk assessments and individualised care planning as a means of supporting young people to develop skills in managing their behaviour. As a result, there is a significant reduction in risk taking behaviours. Young people also benefit from the support of a trained therapist, which assists them in moving forward in their lives. These practices ensure that young people's welfare and development are at the forefront of care practice.

Young people see their families and friends regularly, largely as a result of the practical and emotional support by staff. Any issues arising are handled sensitively by staff, enabling young people to develop emotional resilience, knowledge and understanding of their background. Young people are growing in confidence and learning independence skills in readiness for adulthood. They are attending school and college regularly and achieving their targets.

The home is efficiently managed and operating in accordance with the conditions set. A clear vision of child centred practice is prevalent within the home's culture. Further improved quality assurance systems provide thorough oversight of the care to young people to ensure their welfare is promoted and protected. New staff have been recruited to make sure young people's needs are consistently met. This provides stability and predictability for young people to grow and develop.

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*.