

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC066242
Inspection date	07/02/2012
Inspector	Sonya Robinson
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	27/09/2011
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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 registered to provide care and accommodation for two young people between the ages of 11 to 17 years. They can also provide transitional care for young people entering into adulthood for a specified period of time.

The home is owned by a private organisation.

Progress

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

At the last full inspection in September 2011 the home was rated as outstanding. On that inspection Ofsted asked the provider to ensure that all staff had an appropriate qualification in childcare. With the exception of staff on their probation period, this has been achieved.

Young people spoken to on this inspection said that they are able to make their views known and have a say in what happens in the home. They are involved in decisions about what food they eat, what they do in their spare time, how their room is decorated and the plans for their future. Young people say they feel safe living at the home. Staff ensure that young people receive an individual service designed to meet their personal needs. Staff have excellent knowledge of the young people they are working with, ensuring their needs are consistently met. The home values the rights of individuals to respect and dignity. This promotes development in all aspects of personal, emotional and health education along with citizenship for young people.

Since the last inspection there has been continual redecoration of the environment, of which young people were consulted in choosing the colours and staff training has continued to improve as the organisation is accessing 'on-line' learning in for example, health and safety.

The registered provider visits the home at least once a month and interviews in private with their consent, and children accommodated there, their parent, relatives and person's working at the home, in order to form an opinion of the standard of care provided in the home. However, a copy of this report has not been received at Ofsted for some months. Additionally, the Registered Manager also monitors the home on a monthly basis and produces a report regarding the findings. However, these reports which look at any trends, issues of concern and areas for development have not been sent to Ofsted in line with updated statutory guidance. This means overall that the home has made satisfactory progress since the last inspection.

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
33 (2001)	ensure that the registered provider visits the home at least once a month and interviews in private with their consent, and children accommodated there, their parent, relatives and person's working at the home, in order to form an opinion of the standard of care provided in the home, they shall also review the appropriate records and prepare a report on the conduct of the home. (Reg 33 (3) (4))	31/03/2012

Recommendations

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

- ensure that Regulation 34 reports are completed at six monthly intervals and a copy of every report should be sent to HMCI within twenty eight days of completion. (Vol 5, para 3.14)