

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC066917
Inspection date	19/03/2014
Inspector	Stella Henderson
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	25/10/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This service offers long-term therapeutic placements for up to two young people who have emotional and behavioural difficulties. It is one of several homes owned and managed by a limited company.

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**.

The home received a full inspection in October 2013. The overall effectiveness of the home was judged to be outstanding. The manager continues to improve the quality of care and outcomes for young people and as a result progress is good.

Young people continue to receive very individualised support, guidance and advice that matches their needs and circumstances. Young people who are new to the home are supported to settle in quickly. They benefit from the clear structures and boundaries. As a result young people are able to swiftly engage in education and participate in the range of activities on offer, such as athletics.

Young people feel that their lives have improved during their time at the home. They feel that they are safe at the home and are particularly helped with their education and preparing for independence. Young people's safety and protection continues to be very effectively promoted. Staff carefully assess and balance young people's need for independence with a range of safeguarding considerations.

Young people are treated as the emerging young adults they are. Their views carry

weight on both the day to day decisions and wider care planning. As a result young people have experienced improvements in their contact with families and access to activities which has their improved physical health. Young people have also benefited from some improvements to the fabric of the home such as old furniture being replaced.

Independent monitoring of the home continues to be effective in identifying good practice and highlighting areas for development to benefit young people. The independent visitor now provides a summary of these findings for young people. This helps young people understand what the home is doing well and those areas where it needs to improve.

At the last inspection the manager was asked to improve recording around sanctions and room searches. These were procedural shortfalls which the manager has promptly addressed. Documents now better convey young people's involvement in these matters.

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*.