

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC357468
Inspection date	13/02/2014
Inspector	Stella Elliott
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	05/11/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The privately owned children's home provides care and accommodation for one young person 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**.

The overall effectiveness of the home was judged to be good at the last inspection in November 2013. Since that time, the home has made good progress.

The recommendation that was made at the last inspection is met. An emergency plan has been developed that all staff and young people are familiar with, and young people were able to demonstrate clearly what they must do and who they could contact in an emergency. The emergency plan was developed with young people and enables them to understand how they are looked after in the home and can be kept safe.

Since the last inspection, young people have continued to make very good progress overall as a result of the care and support they receive from staff. They benefit from the safe care practices that are in place in the home. Young people are able to attain their individual education targets because they attend school on a regular basis and there is excellent communication between the home and school to support their education. Attendance since the last inspection has been 100 %.

Young people have a healthy diet and lifestyle. There are robust arrangements in

place in the home to ensure that their general and additional health needs are met. Appropriate therapeutic support is now in place and positive results are already being noted. For example, the staff work with the therapists to ensure all input is consistent and minor progress is routinely given positive praise.

The detail of the therapeutic involvement was not sufficiently detailed in the current placement plan and this was acknowledged by the staff as required good practise and a recommendation will be made in recognition of this.

Young people benefit emotionally and socially from the continuing structured contact that they have with their family. They have also started to benefit from taking part in activities outside of the home. In the home, young people enjoy activities with staff, such as playing board games, doing arts and crafts, baking, reading , watching DVD's and listening to music. Young people's confidence grows as they learn and achieve through participation in such activities.

Staff support young people to develop life skills and to start developing some independence skills. Young people are involved in developing their personal placement plans, in line with their individual levels of ability. For example, some young people have been able to write parts of their plan and have taken a pride in doing this. Staff continue to promote emotional well-being and self-confidence by the use of creative initiatives to support young people re-evaluate negative self-images.

The home continues to be managed very effectively. The manager is enthusiastic and child centred and provides strong leadership to the care team. She consults regularly with families and professionals about care in the home and continues to look for ways to improve the service for young people. Care staff report that training opportunities within the organisation are good and that this enables them to maintain and develop their knowledge and skills. They have an excellent understanding of the individual young people they look after and have very positive, nurturing relationships with them. This helps young people to feel safe, settled and happy in their home.

Areas for improvement

Recommendations

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

- NMS 6.5 Ensure that Children's health is promoted in accordance with their placement plan , by including all details of current therapeutic intervention in the placement plan

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*.