

## Inspection report for children's home

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| <b>Unique reference number</b> | SC362094        |
| <b>Inspection date</b>         | 15/03/2012      |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | Denise Perry    |
| <b>Type of inspection</b>      | Interim         |
| <b>Provision subtype</b>       | Children's home |

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| <b>Date of last inspection</b> | 06/12/2011 |
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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

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Good progress</b>         | 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. |
| <b>Satisfactory progress</b> | 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.                                  |
| <b>Inadequate progress</b>   | 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

This home is part of a private children's care organisation and is registered to accommodate two young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties.

### Progress

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

At the full inspection in December 2011, the home's overall quality rating was good with one requirement and two recommendations set. These related to updating the home's Statement of Purpose, ensuring the home's missing from care procedures are compatible to the local authority's runaway and missing from home and care protocols, and evidencing staffing levels for the service. The Registered Manager has demonstrated continued improvement, having met and addressed these matters following the inspection.

Young people are making good progress in their lives. They maintain high attendance levels at school with on-going support and encouragement from staff. Staff implement consistent boundaries and routines which young people state they need and benefit from. A young person said: 'The routines are really good and help me go to school every day. The staff are good at helping me and I think it's a good home.' Staff recognise and actively promote young people's talents and interests. Young people attend meaningful activities, such as golf, horse riding and drama classes. This means that young people are pursuing their interests and developing skills which will build on their self-esteem and individual abilities.

The manager and staff work positively and respectfully with young people, their families and involved professionals. They have received excellent feedback from parents, social workers, and independent reviewing officers in relation to young people making progress in their lives since living at the home. Staff facilitate contact arrangements between young people and their families. This enables young people to maintain important links with their family and with people who will be important to them into their adult lives.

Staff meet young people's health needs well. They support young people with their daily medication routines and explain the benefits of following medical advice. For some young people this has led to an improved quality of life, as they develop a greater awareness of self-control and social acceptability. Staff have had to deal with very challenging and aggressive behaviours displayed by some young people. However, they remain positive and committed to the young people in their care. Staff regularly review young people's individualised behaviour management plans in consultation with young people. This helps young people to develop tailored strategies for themselves to improve on their behaviour and social skills.

The Registered Manager effectively runs the home and demonstrates commitment to improving standards. There have been improvements made to the home's records such as team minutes, key working reports and behaviour management plans. These documents evidence staff consulting with young people and seeking their views and opinions on the running of the home, and other matters important to them. This means that young people are valued and made aware that their wishes and views are listened to and where appropriate acted on. The home's staff recruitment records record the outcome of Criminal Record Bureau checks but do not include additional evidence of recruitment and vetting checks. As a result, a recommendation has been made in line with the national minimum standards.

## **Areas for improvement**

### **Recommendations**

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

- ensure the children's home has a record of the recruitment and vetting checks which have been carried out on those working for the children's home. (NMS 16.3)