

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC362094
Inspection date	25/03/2014
Inspector	Carole Moore
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	05/12/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This home is one of a number of children's homes operated by a private provider organisation. The home is registered to accommodate two young people with emotional and 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 home was last inspected in December 2013. The judgement at that time was outstanding. Progress since the last inspection is good. The service has appropriately addressed the four recommendations that were made at the previous inspection. This means that the outcomes for young people have continued to improve because of significant developments in the quality of care provided by the home. No requirements or recommendations have been set as a result of this interim inspection.

There has been a new acting manager in post to allow the Registered Manager to take up a temporary senior post within the organisation. This has been since December and both members of staff are reverting to their original positions at the end of March 2014.

Young people now have information about their children's rights service with leaflets explaining how to access the advocate should they wish to do so.

The health and safety issue raised at the last inspection has been addressed and

rooms are free from avoidable hazards. Young people are aware of the reasons that bedrooms need to be less cluttered with electrical wires, whilst still allowing them to safely use all their musical and IT equipment.

All staff members have updated their first aid training which ensures young people's health is promoted.

The organisation has considered the appointment of a deputy manager and there are now clear arrangements in place to ensure appropriate management of the home when the Registered Manager is absent.

Young people's welfare is safeguarded because the staff team work hard to ensure that safeguarding strategies are well embedded and closely monitored. Relevant and meaningful partnership working facilitate effective safeguarding and positively impact on young people's well-being.

Young people are generally making positive improvements in education and work placements; there is a mix of 100% attendance and achievement with some young people enjoying their learning experiences, whilst others struggle to maintain their engagement. They are afforded many opportunities to develop their social skills and employment opportunities which impacts positively on their future goals.

Young people are encouraged and supported to behave well and to improve their social interactions and relationships with each other and the adults who look after them. The staff team focus on setting consistent boundaries and promoting positive behaviours using praise and rewards. Generally this works well, and staff are less reliant on the use of more formal measures of control, such as sanctions. Physical interventions are sometimes used to help reduce the risks to young people or others. The homes' records show that young people are encouraged to share their views about these events as a way of helping them to reflect on their behaviour.

The home is very well managed. Internal quality assurance monitoring systems are rigorous. The homes' development plan is reviewed and is centred on the young people's targets, development and wellbeing. This ensures that the home provides care that meets the overall needs of the young people living there.

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*.