

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC368137
Inspection date	24/10/2012
Inspector	Linda Bond
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	01/05/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home provides care and accommodation for up to two young people of either gender, who may have emotional 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**.

This home was judged as adequate at the last full inspection in May. However, since that time the children's home has demonstrated significant improvement in their quality of care and the outcomes for young people. No recommendations or requirements were made at this inspection.

The home has undergone some decoration and is very well presented and tidy, providing the young people with space to be private and to socialise. Young people's views are central to the development of the home and there is much evidence throughout the home of the young people's individuality.

Young people are fully involved in their placement plans and there was evidence of a young person's signature and views in all documents. The home ensures that their contribution to their placement plan is tailored to the individual and focuses on clear, measurable outcomes. Young people also appreciate the guidance, encouragement and help they receive from staff. Placing authorities benefit from frequent communication, which enables them to efficiently monitor the quality of each placement.

Young people are continuing to socialise, with support, and independently with other young people. This results in planned events outside of school hours when young people engage with others. Young people are making good progress academically and socially. A strong and stable staff team support the young people to aspire and work towards independence safely.

Young people benefit from well planned and consistently implemented independent living programmes and a comprehensive pathway plan is in place. Young people are regularly consulted about their readiness for independence and adult life. Young people are making good progress to develop a positive self-image and knowledge and understanding of their background and future arrangements.

Behaviours are managed well and there are currently no episodes of physical intervention. Skilled and knowledgeable staff work positively with young people ensuring that few sanctions are imposed. Up-to-date and comprehensive risk assessments are in place, known by all staff and are reviewed regularly.

Staff keep up to date with new legislation and practice developments and share these within team meetings to improve the quality of service. Staff are motivated, well organised and clearly understand their roles and the expectations placed upon them. There is a commitment to providing a high quality service. All staff are vigorously working towards improving outcomes. The management team consistently communicate high expectations to staff.

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)*.