

Inspection report for children's home

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Inspection date	06/03/2014
Inspector	Trevor Hall
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	22/05/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This is a small private children's home catering for one young person who may have 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 **satisfactory progress**.

At the last inspection in May 2013 the overall rating for the service was good. At this inspection no requirements were issued and only one recommendation was raised. The recommendation was to ensure that all avoidable hazards be removed as is consistent with a domestic setting and required remedial work to be undertaken to an uneven patio area. This inspection has confirmed that all works required to make the grounds of the home safe have been appropriately completed.

Young people continue to enjoy the benefits of generally improving outcomes. Safeguarding is afforded an appropriately high priority and young people are fully involved in their care planning arrangements. Young people are provided with a consistently high standard of care, structure and routine. All aspects of care planning and practice are highly personalised and tailored to meet the individual needs of the young people, which helps to promote individual identity, difference and equality.

It is clear that education of young people is afforded a very high priority within the home and that young people are both supported and encouraged to value their education and to do well. It is clear that the home, when necessary is prepared to

advocate on behalf of young people to try to ensure that the education provided meets their needs and stretches their ability. However, there is a need to effectively apply pre-admission procedures to ensure that young people have the ability to promptly access such resources, without potentially damaging delay.

Young people are generally positive about the care and support that they receive, and their individual relationships with staff were observed as being good. Young people feel consulted with and listened to. Staff provide appropriate support tailored to reflect each young person's development, and to meet their changing needs.

The home continues to be very effectively managed, demonstrating continued improvement in the quality of care provided, with a clear and focused commitment to service development and to achieving positive outcomes for young people. This includes evaluating and enhancing the level of service provided and demonstrating a strong will to implement the home's development plan.

Both the provider and manager effectively review and monitor the running of the home and take action to improve the quality of the service provided, routinely seeking the views of young people about their care. The manager has an accurate and realistic understanding of the strengths of the service and the areas for further development based on clear evidence. Staff work closely with external professionals to ensure young people's individual needs and views are heard. The home is judged to have made satisfactory progress.

Areas for improvement

Recommendations

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

- ensure that children are supported to attend school, college or alternative provision regularly (NMS 8.3)

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*.