

Inspection report for children's home

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Inspection date	25/01/2013
Inspector	Janet Hunnam
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	24/07/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This home is registered to provide care for up to four young people who have emotional and behavioural difficulties. The home is managed by a local authority.

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**.

At the previous inspection in July 2012, the home was judged as good for overall effectiveness. One requirement was made and this has been addressed. A comprehensive process of monitoring ensures all aspects of care provision are routinely and robustly reviewed to improve the quality of care provided at the home.

The home is maintaining and improving the standard of care for young people. Young people are making good progress. Most young people are increasing their attendance rates in education and improving their behaviour with a decrease in leaving in the home without permission. Staff are proactive in supporting young people's education. They liaise closely with education staff to ensure young people receive the support they require to achieve to their full potential.

An effective Registered Manager provides strong leadership and support for an experienced and committed staff team. The Registered Manager accesses relevant external expertise, such as in the area of sexual exploitation, to expand and develop staffs' knowledge and expertise to benefit young people. The home has strong links with outside agencies such as the youth offending team and child and adolescent mental health service. Consequently, the home is developing its practice in relation

to restorative justice and its focus on the psychological needs of young people.

Safeguarding young people has a high priority at the home. Sound policies and procedures protect young people and staff work constructively with external agencies to keep young people as safe as possible. Effective systems are in place to deal with all significant issues relating to the protection of young people and to make appropriate referrals. Staff work hard with young people and other professionals to support young people to reduce incidents of risk-taking and anti-social behaviour. Twenty-four hour management plans are in place with updated risk assessments ensuring young people are receiving support based on their current needs, which helps promote their well-being. Resilient staff are skilful in maintaining strong boundaries.

Young people continue to receive individualised care and support enabling them to make progress. Positive and open relationships between staff and young people enable young people to become more confident and emotionally resilient. Staff appropriately promote young people's independence skills preparing them for a move to a future placement and the transition to adulthood.

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*.