

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC386837
Inspection date	26/11/2012
Inspector	Stella Henderson
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	07/08/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home provides care and accommodation for two young people of either sex with emotional and behavioural difficulties or learning difficulties. The home is owned and managed by a private company.

No young people were at the home at the time of this inspection.

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 last full inspection took place in August 2012 and the overall judgement was good. Since then the manager of the home has demonstrated a strong determination to improve the running of the home and outcomes for young people. These remain good and the quality of care continues to improve.

At the previous inspection the provider was asked to ensure that that young people communicate their views on all aspects of their care and support. This has been successfully achieved. Young people's views and wishes are now clearly integrated into their placement plans. This process has been improved further with young people setting many of their own targets for the placement and reflecting on their own progress. This gives young people a clear role in the planning process and enables them to measure their own success.

The manager has effected a number of other improvements to outcomes experienced by young people. For example, the number of 'missing from home'

incidents has reduced entirely. As a result young people have become better engaged in a number of activities to develop their skills and abilities such as singing lessons and swimming clubs. An additional effect of this has been to broaden young people's social and friendship networks in a way that is positive and appropriate.

The manager has also made amendments to documentation, using some of the evaluation schedule descriptors as a basis. This helps to better illustrate for young people the progress that they are making.

Young people continue to live in a safe, secure and caring environment where there is regular dialogue and consultation. The home continues to be effectively and efficiently managed. The manager provides visible leadership which promotes good quality care and positive outcomes for young people. Monitoring systems remain effective, enabling the manager to pick up on any practice or recording issues for example.

Staffing continues to be sufficient to meet young people's needs and the home's aims and objectives are fulfilled. The staff team continues to be well motivated and supported. Together with the manager they contribute to providing consistent standards of care which ensures that young people live their lives to the full.

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)*.