

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC387148
Inspection date	14/02/2014
Inspector	Anthony Kyem
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	31/10/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This home is a purpose-built property which provides residential care, shared care and respite care for up to five young people with autism, learning disabilities, and physical disabilities. The home is run by a private company.

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 judged to provide young people with good quality care, at its previous inspection. The judgements for quality of care, outcomes for young people and leadership and management were all previously judged to be outstanding. The home has made good progress since the previous inspection, addressing all of the previous recommendations made.

Young people benefit from highly skilled, suitably qualified and well trained staff. Staff have access to high quality training that helps them meet the needs of individual young people. Staff benefit from effective support, supervision and appraisal to review their performance in delivering an effective, high quality service for young people.

The standards of young people's accommodation have improved since the previous inspection. The shower room provided for young people has had a new floor fitted and the hall stairs carpet has been replaced. The home is well maintained and it has recently been redecorated. As a result of these improvements, young people benefit from a comfortable and homely environment. The location of the home provides

young people with good access to a range of activities that meet their physical, social and developmental needs. The accommodation provided for young people is physically safe and appropriately secure, taking account of the needs and characteristics of young people.

Staff share and implement the home's ethos, approach and philosophy, in caring for young people. Staff are enthusiastic about their roles and their efforts are channelled effectively. Staff work creatively with young people. They make a positive difference to their lives and they promote and maximise their well-being. Since the last inspection the home has achieved accreditation with the National Autistic Society. The home has also been awarded the Investor's in People and the Enabling Environment Award in recognition of the high quality services the home provides for young people. This is an outstanding achievement.

Staff demonstrate a positive understanding and awareness of safe working practice. The use of clear risk assessment, effective management and pro-active safeguarding practice ensure young people, including the most vulnerable, enjoy a strong sense of personal safety. The home maintains effective partnerships with all professional agencies. Significant events relating the safety of young people are notified to the relevant authorities promptly to ensure appropriate action is taken as a result. Investigations into allegations or suspicions of harm are handled quickly and professionally, providing effective support and protection for young people. Young people are pro-actively protected from all forms of significant harm.

Young people continue to benefit from a home that is managed efficiently and effectively. The manager exercises effective leadership of the home's operation to promote the smooth and efficient operations of the home. There are no breaches in regulation. Consequently, there are no requirements or recommendations made as a result of this inspection.

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*.