

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC393567
Inspection date	05/07/2013
Inspector	David Coulter
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	23/01/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This home is an independent residential home that meets the needs of young people who have behavioural, emotional and social difficulties. It provides accommodation for young people who attend the local associated residential special school.

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

The home has been closed for 5 months. This inspection will focus on whether the registration requirements continue to be met and the home is suitable to accommodate children and young people.

Since the closure the home has been subject to a comprehensive redecoration and refurbishment programme. The home appeared to be in good structural order and is being decorated to a high standard. The grounds are being cleared and facilities outside improved. For example, a large shed was being upgraded to make a games area. The internal layout of the building is being reorganised and the office relocated to a more appropriate area. Each of the five residents will be provided with their own accommodation. A self-contained bed/sit area is also available as a training resource for any young person preparing to move on to semi-independent living.

A new manager has just taken up post and intends to complete her Registered Managers application as a priority. The previous staff team has been disbanded and a new team is being created. A number of staff, including an experienced deputy manager, have already been appointed. All new staff will be expected to successfully complete a two week induction programme.

On reopening the home intends to provide longer term rather than short-term or emergency placements. All residents will be expected to either attend Coxlease School or local colleges. The homes statement of purpose will need to be updated to include the new staff and the change in emphasis. The areas of concern that arose following recent inspections have been satisfactorily addressed and requirements and recommendations have been incorporated into the homes policies and procedures.

The registered provider has indicated that the home will not be operational for at least six weeks from the date of the inspection. Should the home decide to accept placements they are required to inform Ofsted of their intention before they do so.

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*.