

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC396104
Inspector	Anthony Kyem
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered manager	Christine Barry
Date of last inspection	24/10/2014

Inspection date	13/03/2015
Previous inspection	outstanding
Enforcement action since last inspection	none

This inspection

This home was judged outstanding at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has **improved effectiveness**.

Young people enjoy living at the home and they feel safe and secure living there. Young people make exceptional progress and benefit from effective, high quality support from staff. Young people have positive relationships with staff and each other. The development of trusting relationships between young people and staff are instrumental to the positive outcomes achieved by all young people. Staff work enthusiastically with young people to sustain their positive progress.

Young people attend school regularly and staff have high aspirations for young people. Young people benefit from the support they need to enjoy and achieve. Staff work closely with the providers of young people's education to promote their educational achievement. Staff are currently helping young people to prepare for their GCSE's.

Since the last inspection there has been a planned admission to the home. Young people confirm they are greeted by staff and made to feel welcome at the home. A young person reports, 'Everyone makes you feel welcome. That's the good thing about it. I think they all deserve a pay rise.'

Eligible care leavers who have moved on since the last inspection have been supported to make the successful transition to adulthood. They have been supported to find apprenticeships and obtain supported tenancies. Consequently, young people receive the help and support they need to achieve their independence and economic well-being.

Young people are supported to pursue their individual aspirations and goals. Staff believe in young people and as a consequence young people learn to believe in themselves. Staff work with young people in way that enhances their self-confidence and promotes their self-esteem. For example, one young person who is an aspiring

musician, singer and song writer recently 'gigged out' at a local community event and received a standing ovation. Staff actively encourage young people to have hobbies and pursue activities of interest to them. Young people benefit from a comfortable, safe and homely environment because staff ensure the home is consistently maintained to a highly quality standard for them.

Staff promote young people's positive behaviour and they apply the home's rules and boundaries fairly to promote good order and behaviour in the home. There have been no restraints, sanctions or complaints since the last inspection. It is highly unusual for young people to go missing from care. However, should they do, there are effective arrangements and procedures for staff to follow to promote their safe return. There has only been one missing from care occasion since the last inspection.

The home maintains effective partnerships with other professionals to promote the safety of young people. Significant incidents are rare but if they do occur the home reports significant events to the appropriate authorities to ensure appropriate action is taken by them.

There were no requirements from the previous inspection and the two recommendations that were made have been addressed. Young people are now in the process of being consulted as part of staff appraisal and staff have undertaken training on E-safety. As result, staff can advise young people about the dangers of the internet and teach them how to use social media responsibly.

There are effective arrangements for reviewing and improving the standard and quality of young people's care. The registered manager routinely scrutinises the home's practices to raise standards and improve outcomes for young people. The performance of the home is also monitored independently to help the manager to recognise the home's strengths and identify any weaknesses, so that action can be taken to secure, improvement. There are no breaches in regulations. Consequently, there are no requirements or recommendations made following this inspection.

Information about this children's home

This is a private home that provides care and accommodation for up to five young people of the same gender with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. The home specialises in providing a therapeutic service for young people.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/10/2014	Full	outstanding
06/03/2014	Interim	good progress
26/09/2013	Full	good
21/01/2013	Interim	satisfactory progress

What inspection judgements mean

At the interim inspections we make a judgement on whether the home has improved in effectiveness, sustained effectiveness, or declined in effectiveness since the previous full inspection. This is in line with the *Inspection of children's homes: framework for inspection*.

Information 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 main strengths, any areas for improvement, including any breaches of regulation, and any failure to meet national minimum standards. The judgements included in the report are made against the framework of inspection for children's homes.