

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC397092
Inspection date	07/03/2012
Inspector	Louise Redfern
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	15/12/2011
--------------------------------	------------

© Crown copyright 2012

Website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

This document may be reproduced in whole or in part for non-commercial educational purposes, provided that the information quoted is reproduced without adaptation and the source and date of publication are stated.

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)*.

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.

Service information

Brief description of the service

This children's home is operated by a private company. The home provides care for up to two young people of either gender with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.

Progress

Since their previous inspection the service is judged to be making **good** progress.

At the previous full inspection, in December 2011, the overall effectiveness of the service was outstanding, with one recommendation made. This was in relation to records of sanctions and restraint. Good progress has been made since the last inspection with the recommendation being met, a new secure document is being introduced into the home.

The Registered Manager is committed to the development of the staff team as a group and as individuals, therefore young people benefit from a highly skilled and motivated staff team. Since the last inspection, established staff have commenced on further child and adolescent psychotherapy training courses. The whole staff team have benefitted from sharing their learning experiences at team meetings and putting into practice new strategies to support and improve outcomes for young people in the home. The Registered Manager has reviewed the home's development plan and implemented timescales for completion of tasks.

Since the last inspection, the service has developed stronger links with local police officers. These relationships support young people to look the impact on the local community of their challenging behaviours and develop stronger community links.

Young people's heritage is celebrated, national emblems are proudly displayed, and national days have been celebrated. One young person when asked what was good about the home replied, 'the staff, they listen to me and took me on holiday'. Young people are encouraged to take an active role in their individual plans. They benefit from individual contact arrangements with family members and people who are important to them, supporting young people to maintain meaningful relationships. They are also encouraged to develop links with support organisations and engage in positive activities. This develops young people's life skills, interests and self-esteem through skills building and success.

Young people continue to make excellent progress in their individual development. For example, they are attending education full time and are undertaking GCSE examinations. The staff team are proud of individual's achievements and celebrate them in the home.

Young people benefit from a nurturing enthusiastic and motivated Registered Manager and staff team who are committed to improving outcomes and providing a good level of care.