

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC398385
Inspection date	19/03/2013
Inspector	Trevor Hall
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	11/09/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This home is part of a large private children's care organisation and is registered to accommodate up to three young people, who have educational and behavioural difficulties.

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**.

This home was judged outstanding overall at its last full inspection undertaken in September 2012, no statutory requirements or recommendations were made. The manager and staff continue to ensure that young people are central to the work of the home and make good progress. They are committed to continual evaluation of practice which enables them to deliver a consistently high quality of care. No breaches of children's homes regulations or shortfalls in meeting the national minimum standards were identified during this interim inspection.

The home continues to be highly effective in supporting young people to overcome barriers to education attendance and achievement. Two out of the three young people in residence are attending main stream education settings. The home goes to great lengths to provide young people with very high quality learning experiences. Staff are innovative in encouraging the interests and talents of young people. A very good range of leisure activities are undertaken by young people in the home. Self-esteem and self-confidence is improved as young people develop their talents and learn new skills.

All young people have made good progress towards meeting their individual placement aims. This includes: educational achievement and attendance; developing independence skills; maintaining or improving family contacts; and not engaging in risk-taking behaviours, such as going missing or developing inappropriate relationships. Managers have the welfare of young people and staff at heart and encourage each of them to achieve. Staff are genuinely enthusiastic about their care of young people and there is a commitment to providing a high quality service.

Staff have a detailed knowledge of the individual young people they care for. They provide personal support tailored to reflect each young person's development and to meet their changing needs. Staff encourage young people to take more responsibility for themselves appropriate to their age and level of understanding. As a result, young people have a responsible attitude towards their health and understand the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

The home continues to be very effectively managed. The Registered Manager is enthusiastic and confident about the home's progress and has a good knowledge of the operational running of the home. The home demonstrates continued improvement in the quality of care provided with a clear and focused commitment to service development and achieving positive outcomes for young people. This includes evaluating and enhancing the level of service provided and demonstrating a strong commitment to implementing the home's development plan.

The provider and manager effectively review and monitor the running of the home and take action to improve the quality of the service provided, routinely seeking the views of young people about their care. The manager has a clear and realistic understanding of the strengths of the service and the areas for further development based on clear evidence. Staff work closely with external professionals to ensure young people's individual needs and views are heard.

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*.