

Inspection report for children's home

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Inspection date	06/02/2012
Inspector	Suzanne Young
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	02/11/2011
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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

The home is operated by a national private provider and looks after three young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties. The service offers planned and emergency admissions, and provides short, medium and long-term placements. Young people are likely to require high levels of support.

Progress

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

At the last inspection in November 2011 the overall quality rating for the service was judged as outstanding. There was one recommendation made which has been met. The Registered Manager has developed a good working relationship with the Local Authority Designated Officer for child protection. This ensures that any concerns arising from an incident or restraint is appropriately considered and referred.

The manager and staff demonstrate a commitment to the development of the service and to provide better outcomes for young people. Good progress is being made to improve the quality of the care delivered to the young people.

Young people continue to live in a safe, caring and supportive environment that enables them to make good progress in many aspects of their lives. Staff promote and encourage young people to engage in education. They have adopted various strategies in partnership with teachers which allow young people to remain in the classroom. Staff provide clear boundaries in a nurturing environment. This has resulted in significant improvements in young people's behaviour. There has been a decrease in young people going missing and engaging in criminal damage and inappropriate behaviour. Parents and social workers feel that staff provide an excellent level of care resulting in substantial improvements in behaviour. One social worker commented that: 'from my observations there has been a significant improvement in willingness to engage, and in behaviour, since coming to stay at the home. The strategies staff are using are clearly having a positive effect.'

Staff have been instrumental in developing relationships with young people's families. This has resulted in young people benefitting from increased contact which is both positive and constructive.

Robust and detailed monitoring systems are completed monthly. Through this monitoring and analysis of the home the manager has produced a development plan and a progress folder which demonstrate areas of development. Staff are encouraged to contribute to these plans through staff meetings.

Young people are consulted and involved in a variety of discussions about the home.

They discuss these in residents meetings and are fully involved in decisions regarding improvements and redecoration of the home.