

Inspection report for children's home

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Inspection date	20/12/2012
Inspector	Stella Lovie
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	19/07/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home is privately run and registered to provide care and accommodation for up to three young people with emotional or behavioural difficulties or learning 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**.

The home was last inspected in July 2012 when it received a good judgement. There was one requirement for improvement which has since been met. There were two recommendations made, one of which has been met.

Young people continue to make very good progress in their development while living in the home. This is promoted by the provision of careful, tailored support from staff. For example, several young people have moved on successfully in accordance with their care plans. As one care leaver commented: 'I am very happy with the support of staff. They are very generous, kind, caring and loving.' This demonstrates that young people feel that staff place their well-being at the centre of their practice in the home.

Relatives and external professionals continue to fully endorse the high standard of care that staff provide. One social worker said: 'I am totally impressed with the home. Staff work really well with the care plans and they've gone above and beyond in working with the young people. The change in them since coming to the home is remarkable. This home is one of those that actually deliver on what they say they

can do.'

Young people report that they feel safe in the home and are confident that they can go to staff if they have any worries. They feel relaxed and secure in the care they receive and this helps them to move forward in their lives. There is a reduction in the number of reported occasions when young people go missing. This is demonstrative of the effectiveness of the home in working together with the police and in following the newly agreed local protocol. Positive behaviour management strategies, consistently applied, remain very effective in ensuring that restraint is not needed and that there is minimal and appropriate use of sanctions. As a result, young people are helped to develop self-discipline and learn to be responsible for the effects of their actions and behaviour towards others.

Leadership and management arrangements remain strong. The quality assurance mechanisms are robust and ensure effective oversight and monitoring of the high standard of care. All staff receive regular supervision but they still sometimes fail to sign the supervision tracker to confirm this. However, this is a minor shortfall which in no way impacts adversely on the quality of care provided to the young people. The home is making good progress.

Areas for improvement

Recommendations

To improve the quality and standards of care further the service should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- ensure that the supervision tracker is signed by the supervisor and the member of staff at the end of the supervision. (NMS 19.5)

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*.