

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC414516
Inspection date	12/02/2014
Inspector	Amanda Ellis
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	21/08/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home is operated by a private company and provides care for up to three young people. The home is registered to provide care for young people with emotional or 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**.

At the last inspection in August 2013, the overall effectiveness rating for the home was judged outstanding. No requirements or recommendations were set at the last inspection.

Young people continue to make good progress and develop positively within this home. Professionals comment that the quality of care is good and outcomes improve for the young people. One social worker stated 'They are doing a brilliant job; the young people are happy, relaxed and engaged. They are learning the skills they need.'

Young people receive care appropriate to their individual needs to ensure they achieve good outcomes. They benefit from support from the provider's educational and therapeutic staff. This means young people receive a holistic approach to their care. A knowledgeable and dedicated management and staff team support young people with all aspects of their development. This ensures that all young people benefit from highly individualised and responsive care.

All young people are encouraged to participate in appropriate educational placements. Education plans are personalised and include participation in vocational, community and academic activity. As a result, young people are encouraged to

develop their academic and social skills. Such improvements assist young people in preparing for adult life and increase their chances of gaining further education and employment.

Young people receive effective preparation to develop their independence and readiness for adulthood. Support and guidance from staff, combined with rigorous assessment, prepares young people to live independently. This means young people develop the confidence, practical experience and knowledge necessary for successful independent living.

Young people take part in weekly meetings to discuss matters important to them. The meetings consider weekly menu planning, activities and behaviour management, with young people contributing. This enables young people to feel fully integrated and part of the day-to-day running of the home.

Young people say that feel safe at the home. Safeguarding procedures are robust and well understood. Safeguarding issues are notified promptly to all relevant professionals. Notifications are made to HMCI, Ofsted, which means that the regulator is able to review events happening in the home.

The home is generally well maintained with good standards within both the home and the gardens. However, some areas of the home are in need of maintenance and refurbishment. This relates to the replacement of some carpets and floor coverings and some damaged paintwork. A requirement has been made in this regard.

Leadership and management arrangements are effective. The home has a development plan in place, which reflects practical proposals for continued improvement. Internal and external monitoring processes provide continuous quality assurance and promote the development of this service.

The home has made good progress since the last inspection. The manager is clear about what is necessary to ensure that young people benefit from improved standards in care.

Areas for improvement

Statutory Requirements

This section sets out the actions which must be taken so that the registered person/s meets the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes Regulations 2001 and the National Minimum Standards. The registered person(s) must comply with the given timescales.

Reg.	Requirement	Due date
31 (2001)	ensure that all parts of the children's home used by children are kept clean and reasonably decorated and maintained. (Regulation 31 (2) (e))	14/03/2014

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*.