

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC423442
Inspection date	05/10/2011
Inspector	Debbie Foster
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	06/04/2011
--------------------------------	------------

© Crown copyright 2011

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

The home provides care for 5 young people with emotional or behavioural difficulties of either sex from 12 years to 17 years at any one time.

Progress

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

Premier house has not provided care and accommodation to young people since its registration on 29th of April 2011. This inspection focuses on whether the children's home meets its statutory requirements in order to maintain its registration and is ready to accept placements.

A Statement of Purpose is available to inform professionals and members of the public about how care is provided at the home. A children's guide is in a format suitable for young people understand with information about the care they will receive and the house rules. This will support young people to settle into living in their new home.

Recommendations made at the time of the registration visit have been implemented to show the service is actively working to improve the safety and care service to be provided to young people.

All staff are employed through well-managed and formal interview and recruitment process. This includes; CRB checks and full employment history. However, on the files checked only one reference is recorded as being obtained. This does not meet the requirements of the regulation and could impact on staff not being safe to work with young people.

The staff team have experience of working with young people in a number of settings including residential care. This will assist in providing positive and consistent care to young people. Staff have access to clear policies, procedures and guidance to promote young people's welfare and to safeguard them. These include; behaviour management, child protection, complaints, anti-bullying, young people going missing, the use of sanctions and restraint. These procedures inform the staff on how to care for young people, keep them safe and positively promote their welfare.

A number of staff have started induction training, have received training in safeguarding, first aid, food hygiene, health and safety. Some staff have completed National Vocational Qualification at level 3 in Caring for Children and Young People.

However, some staff are still to complete the induction training and behaviour management training. This could impact negatively on the quality of care provided to young people.

Young people will benefit from a home which is decorated and furnished to a good standard. The home is kept clean and there are homely touches throughout. All bedrooms are single for young people, to promote their privacy and provide personal space. The garden is maintained and safe. This environment will support young people being secure, safe and promote their well-being.

Areas for improvementStatutory 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
26 (2001)	ensure that two references, including from the person's most recent employer are obtained as part of the recruitment process for all staff (Regulation 26)	28/12/2011
27 (2001)	ensure that all staff receive appropriate training before commencing working with young people; in particular induction training, behaviour management and physical intervention. (Regulation 27)	28/11/2011