

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC405985
Inspection date	09/03/2012
Inspector	Susan Southey
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	05/12/2011
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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

This children's home is a private provision which provides care and accommodation for up to three young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties and learning difficulties aged between 11 and 17 years.

Progress

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

At the last full inspection in December 2011, the overall quality rating for the service was judged as good with one recommendation and four requirements made. The home has made good progress with all recommendations and requirements met.

Staff are appropriately trained to provide effective care for young people. Those who have completed induction training are working towards the diploma in care level 3. In addition, staff benefit from the recent introduction of electronic software, affording them instant access to training. Good quality training supports staff to improve their individual skill base and enhance the quality of care received by young people.

Leaders and managers have introduced effective procedures to promote the safety of young people. They have addressed the actions required from previous inspections with regard to both the physical environment and recruitment procedures. Managers give clear guidance to staff to secure the building appropriately and identify potential hazards. Additionally leaders and managers promote safe recruitment. Verification of gaps in employment are now robustly monitored. Effective safe recruitment procedures prevent unsuitable people from working with young people.

There are a range of systems within the home to monitor the quality of care provided and the running of the home. Regulation 33 monitoring visits are carried out and reports are produced which highlight any shortfalls. The manager undertakes regular monitoring reviews, which are sent to Ofsted in appropriate time scales. The internal monitoring of the home helps staff to reflect and improve practice.

Dedicated staff continue to support young people ensuring that they achieve optimum success. Young people have opportunities by make a positive contribution to the community through voluntary work and participating in charitable events. Good relationships formed with the local community have resulted in neighbours offering young people employment. Social and employment opportunities build

young people's self-esteem and self-image in preparation for a successful transition into adulthood.