

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC005048
Inspection date	20/03/2012
Inspector	Jo Stephenson
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	12/10/2011
--------------------------------	------------

© Crown copyright 2012

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 is registered to provide care and accommodation for eight young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties. The home is owned by a private company.

Progress

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

This interim inspection has focused on the progress made by the home since the last inspection in October 2011. The overall judgement was good. The service has made good progress and demonstrated improvements in the quality of care and outcomes for young people. The home has addressed all requirements and recommendations raised at the previous inspection.

Following on from the last inspection, records concerning physical interventions are completed immediately and in detail. Responses to child protection enquiries are consistent and timely and all notifications are appropriately concluded.

Young people enjoy excellent relationships with staff and each other. They say they feel their views and wishes are considered and that they understand how to make a complaint. A 'comments and suggestions' book is available for young people and this is checked and actions implemented by a manager. Staff are proactive in identifying positive behaviours and share these with young people on a daily basis. As a result, young people experience improved self-confidence and self-worth.

Placement plans are personalised and recognise group dynamics. Young people participate in weekly meetings that feed into individualised behaviour strategies and targets. Consequently, young people are encouraged to acknowledge their progress and benefit from clear and consistent boundaries.

Staff have an extensive knowledge of the young people and their backgrounds. Consequently, they are able to identify behaviour triggers and work to address these in key sessions. This means that young people benefit from a comprehensive and inclusive approach to their care.

Young people are supported with their psychological and physical health needs. The home accesses specialist therapy services through the on-site school. These reflect the individual needs of young people and promote their emotional and social development. As a result, young people are afforded a holistic approach to meeting their welfare needs.

Comprehensive monitoring systems are in place to scrutinise the quality of care for

young people. The Registered Manager completes regular key work sessions with young people to explore outcomes and progress. Areas highlighted for improvement are addressed immediately and practice changes are discussed during staff meetings. Staff say that they are supported in their role and development. Consequently they display enthusiasm and confidence in their tasks. As a result, young people live in an effectively and efficiently managed home and benefit from a coherent approach to their care.