

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC403789
Inspection date	24/01/2013
Inspector	Susan Mullin
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	10/10/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This children's home is registered to provide specialist care and accommodation for up to 3 young people. It is operated by a private provider.

Young people may have a combination of mental health, psychological, emotional or complex care needs that present challenging behaviour. The home's programme of care incorporates a structured balance of education, recreation and therapeutic interventions tailored to meet individual needs.

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 October 2012, the overall effectiveness judgement for the service was good. Progress since the last inspection is also good. The manager and staff continue to improve the standard of care they deliver to the young people and as a result their outcomes are positive. The staff team have a good understanding of the amended regulations and updated national minimum standards, which ensures that the quality of care practices continue to improve.

Young people benefit from an environment where staff have high hopes and aspirations for young people to reach their full potential. Young people's views are valued in the home. A robust complaints process ensures that young people are confident to raise any concerns they have. This means that they have a voice. Good behaviour is actively encouraged and rewarded at this home and this is proving very effective. Since the last inspection there have been no missing episodes and no

criminal activity or risk taking behaviours recorded. Consequently, the young people are happy and settled at the home and are making good progress. They enjoy sound, trusting relationships with the staff and feel confident to approach them about any concerns they may have.

The promotion of equality and diversity is threaded through all areas of practice at this home and is second nature to the staff team who have day-to-day contact with the young people. Each young person is appreciated, valued and recognised for who they are as individuals. This allows young people to progress at a pace that is appropriate to their personal development. Young people's mental health and emotional support needs, are well provided for through regular key working sessions and the continuity of a stable staff team. This has helped young people to come to terms with some of their unhappy life experiences, to understand and manage some of their difficult family relationships and to develop self-confidence and a feeling of self-worth.

Young people benefit from a competent staff team. All the staff are fully up to date with their mandatory training and they also receive formal monthly supervision. Annual appraisals are undertaken to review performance and to determine personal development and on-going training needs.

The home has a comprehensive Statement of Purpose, which clearly details what the service offers to young people and this is reviewed yearly. There is a development plan in place, which is currently under review to strengthen plans for the future of the service. Ofsted has been informed of issues and progress at the home through inspection visits and via the notification of significant events. These show a well-managed service that is realistic about its strengths and weaknesses.

The home is operating in accordance with its conditions of registration and the registered persons remain fit for registration. No requirements or recommendations were made at this inspection.

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*.