

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC020151
Inspection date	19/02/2013
Inspector	Louise Redfern
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	11/10/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home is privately owned. It provides care and accommodation for up to eight young people with emotional and/ 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 **inadequate progress**.

At the previous inspection, in October 2012, the home received an overall effectiveness judgement of adequate. Three requirements and three recommendations were made. This inspection judged that inadequate progress has been made since the last inspection, as a previous requirement has needed to be repeated.

There have been some improvements in the documents to record the administration of medication in the home. However, medication has not been administered as prescribed by the General Practitioner. Whilst this specific medication error has had minimal impact, there is the potential for young people's health to be adversely affected.

The environment continues to be maintained to a high standard, with health and safety prioritised in the home. Electronic door release mechanisms have now been installed on some fire doors. As a result, the risk to young people's safety in the event of a fire has significantly reduced. The manager has ensured that all young people have practised fire drills, both during the day and at night. This means they

have a clear understanding of what to do in the event of an emergency.

The Registered Manager has made progress in consulting parents, young people and placing authorities as part of the regular monitoring of the home. This ensures that their views can support improvements in the home. Young people report that they feel listened to in the home and that they feel safe. One young person commented, 'I feel very safe here, it's the right place for me right now.'

Since the last inspection, there has been regular staff supervision which is recorded and clearly documented. As a result, staff receive effective support. One member of staff commented, 'I have regular supervision with my line manager, but I know I can always approach anyone on the management team.'

Since the last inspection, the Registered Manager and the young people have reviewed and made changes to a number of permissible sanctions that can be used by staff to address negative behaviour. As a result, young people feel more empowered and listened to in the home.

The Registered Manager has reviewed the home's development plan. This has now become a working document, which identifies clear areas for development to enable the service to progress. For example, the development plan identifies when specific policies and procedures are to be reviewed and updated.

Young people continue to be positive about the quality of care at the home. One young person commented, 'I would score it 9 out of 10'. Young people continue to make good progress at the home and are maintaining excellent levels of attendance at school. Staff continue to promote young people's welfare and develop positive relationships with them during their placements at the home.

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
21 (2001)	ensure the registered person makes suitable arrangements for the recording, handling, safekeeping, safe administration and disposal of any medicines received into the children's home. (Regulation 21 (1))	14/03/2013

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*.