

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC021679
Inspection date	15/02/2013
Inspector	Sarah Oldham
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	30/11/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home is one of a number of children's homes run by a private organisation. This home provides medium- to long-term care for up to four young people of either sex, between the ages of 11 and 17 years.

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 **satisfactory progress**.

The home received its full inspection in November 2012 when the overall effectiveness was judged to be good. At this previous inspection, two recommendations were made. The home has addressed these and has shown a commitment to supporting young people to achieve positive outcomes.

Individual risk assessments are now in place for young people. These have been developed following discussion with placing social workers and young people. This enables young people to have an understanding of how risks can be managed. Placement plans are now drawn up in consultation with young people. These plans include information from placing authority plans and are discussed with placing social workers. This ensures that the support provided to young people is in accordance with the overall aims and objectives of their placement.

Young people are continuing to develop their skills in preparing for independence. This includes planning, budgeting, shopping and preparation of meals. They are learning to work together to create a positive living environment and are developing

confidence in their abilities. Staff work in conjunction with schools to support positive educational outcomes. Educational attendance has improved and this has had a positive impact on overall attainment. Where young people do not have school placements on admission to the home, staff work with placing authorities to secure appropriate educational resources. These measures enable young people to access education to enhance their learning and development.

Young people spend time away from the home in accordance with their individual risk assessments. Some young people have reduced the number of times they go missing from the home and this has had a positive impact on their safety and well-being. However, there is a shortfall in monitoring, which resulted in one instance of a child missing from care being undetected for a period of time. To address this the manager has ensured that all staff have received updated safeguarding training and are aware of the procedures to follow for each young person to ensure that their safety is promoted at all times.

The manager undertakes monitoring of the home to enable an overview of how it is operating and to enable shortfalls to be identified and addressed. This ensures that overall the quality of care for young people is positive.

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
11 (2001)	make proper provision for the care and supervision of children accommodated there. This is in particular with regards the supervision of young people. (Regulation 11 (1)(a))	15/03/2013

Recommendations

To improve the quality and standards of care further the service should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- ensure that the care and support provided to children minimises the risk that they will go missing. (NMS 5.1)

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*.