

Inspection report for children's home

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Inspection date	11/02/2014
Inspector	Emeline Evans
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	04/10/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home is owned and operated by a private organisation that specialises in the assessment and treatment of male adolescents who have experienced some form of abuse and have subsequently been involved in perpetrating abusive behaviour themselves. The overall aim of the service is to offer four young people the opportunity to embark on specialised educational and therapeutic training programmes within a safe, supportive and nurturing environment.

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 2013, the overall effectiveness rating for the home was judged to be good. There were two recommendations made. This children's home demonstrates continued improvement in the quality of care provided with a clear and focused commitment to service development. Young people's welfare is enhanced by the relationships that exist between staff and young people. The staff are clearly very passionate about promoting good outcomes for young people and work as a team to ensure this is achieved.

Since the last inspection, the home has experienced a change with the group dynamics in the home. Young people describe it as more relaxed now and one young person commented, 'it's great here, it keeps getting better and better.' Staff spoken to shared lots of examples of how young people have moved on emotionally and started to engage and make exceptional use of the therapeutic support offered. Through an exceptional level of support and positive role modelling by staff, young

people use their new skills to address their behaviours and views.

Young people are supported to develop their independence skills and are working towards individual goals in this area. Young people are supported in imaginative ways to progress across several areas of their lives, particularly in their behaviour. There have been continuing improvements in outcomes for young people across this area with a decrease in incidents recorded.

Since the last inspection, the manager has taken action to include more information in notifications sent to the appropriate authorities. These now include detailed information in relation to risk management and the action taken as a result of the information. This now gives more clarity about the action taken. In addition, detail recorded in incident records has improved. These records now include details of the outcome and any follow-up work required.

The Registered Manager formally reviews the quality of care on a regular basis and this results in awareness of key issues and any patterns or trends. Regular monitoring visits are undertaken monthly and provide an opinion on the standard of care provided at the home. The manager has compiled a new format for Regulation 34 checks, which is in line with new Regulations. This is fully incorporating the views of young people in this process. She is using this monitoring to fully evaluate the service being provided and identify areas where outcomes for young people may be improved.

Staff members are fully supported within their work through regular supervision and receive regular opportunities to discuss their practice and relationships with the young people both within staff handovers and during frequent team meetings. Staff are able to reflect on the progress young people have made during their time at the home and have positive and realistic aspirations for the young people.

Young people have a positive view of the care that they receive and say their relationships with staff are good. One young person commented, 'staff always help you to achieve your ambition.' Since the last inspection, much work has been done to evaluate the current level of service and to plan ahead for future areas of development for the coming year.

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*.