

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC031220
Inspection date	20/02/2014
Inspector	Sarah Oldham
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	28/06/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

At the last full inspection in June 2013, the overall effectiveness was judged to be good. Since then the home has made good progress.

The home continues to demonstrate a clear commitment to improve outcomes for the young people who live at the home. They benefit from being supported by a consistent staff team who are experienced and promote the needs of the young people exceptionally well. They are supported to develop emotional resilience, this enables them to understand and address their previous offending behaviour. The home works in partnership with therapy staff and teaching staff to enable young people to receive a holistic package of care. All young people attend regular therapy sessions and are making positive progress. This is reflected in the increase of unsupervised time for them to enable them to engage in activities within the community as well as planning for independent living.

All young people attend education, either within the organisation's academy school on site, or in college placements with appropriate levels of support. All have made educational progress from their initial starting point with those young people preparing to leave education, attaining academic exam results as well as additional skills and qualifications through college placements. This helps to equip them for further studies or for future employment.

Young people take part in and enjoy a wide range of activities. They are supported in their own individual hobbies and interests as well as being encouraged to try different leisure pursuits. Examples of this are music, drama, sewing and design. This enables young people to learn new skills and increases their confidence in their abilities. Leading active lifestyles also contributes to their overall health and well-being. Health care needs are clearly identified within individual placement plans and these are fully supported. Where young people need additional specialist health care, for example, children and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) staff ensure that they are supported with their appointments. Procedures for the storage and administration of medication are robust and this further promotes their health and welfare.

The Registered Manager undertakes robust monitoring of the home, provides strong leadership, is aware of the strengths of the service and has clear plans for further development of the service. Young people say that they feel very well cared for and safe at the home. They have good relationships with staff and say that the care provided has enabled them to make positive changes in their lives. One young person said 'this home has helped me to look forward to my future.'

The home provides well maintained, comfortable and spacious accommodation, which feels warm and welcoming. Young people take pride in their home and say it is a good place to live.

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**.

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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*.