

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC433430
Inspection date	03/01/2013
Inspector	Elizabeth Tanner
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	13/06/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The children's home is run by a private organisation. It is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to three children with emotional and behavioural difficulties. The main house can accommodate two young people and the cottage annex on the other side of the driveway can accommodate one.

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**.

Since the last full inspection in June 2012 in which the home was judged as good, the home is maintaining standards of care for young people. The four areas for improvement identified at the last inspection have been addressed by the recently appointed management team. All measures of control used in the home are now effectively recorded and monitored. There is a telephone available for use in private by young people and, when appropriate, young people also receive financial contribution towards their mobile phone costs. Quality assurance monitoring reports are now sent to Ofsted as required. The recording of medication has been reviewed and procedures strengthened to ensure accurate records are maintained.

An experienced manager is newly in post and has applied to Ofsted for registration. Discussions with the manager and her deputy indicate an ability to identify the home's strengths and weaknesses. An action plan has been drawn up and this is an effective tool to support improvements.

Young people state they are happy in the home and that the staff work with them well. Young people confirm they feel safe in the home and feel able to discuss their concerns with staff. Interactions between staff and young people on inspection were appropriate, relaxed and responsive. The quality of care for some the young people has been maintained at a time of change within the home, although outcomes have remained adequate since the last inspection.

Two requirements have been made as a result of this inspection. The Statement of Purpose and children's guide have not been reviewed or sent to Ofsted. This means some of the information is not as up to date as it should be and this could be confusing for young people or their families. Notifications about issues that have occurred in the home have not been sent to Ofsted in a timely manner thus the regulator cannot assess the impact of incidents between inspections.

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
5 (2001)	keep the Statement of Purpose and children's guide under review and revise where appropriate, notifying the HMCI of any such revision within 28 days and supplying a revised copy of the children's guide to each child accommodated in the home (Regulation 5 (a) (b) (c))	28/02/2013
30 (2001)	ensure if any of the events listed in column 1 of the table in Schedule 5 takes place, the registered person shall without delay notify the persons indicated in respect of the event in column 2.(Regulation 30(1))	31/01/2013

Recommendations

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

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*.