

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC005042
Inspection date	15 March 2010
Inspector	Stella Henderson
Type of Inspection	Random

Date of last inspection	9 February 2010
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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.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcome for children set out in the Children Act 2004 and relevant National Minimum Standards for the establishment.

The inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding:	this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality
Good:	this aspect of the provision is strong
Satisfactory:	this aspect of the provision is sound
Inadequate:	this aspect of the provision is not good enough

Service information

Brief description of the service

The home, which is also a school, provides care and education for up to 10 young people aged between 11 and 16 years who have significant social, emotional and behavioural difficulties.

A large detached property, the home is set in its own grounds that provide for a range of activities. Young people are able to access local leisure activities in the immediate neighbourhood. The home has transport to take the young people to those facilities that are a travelling distance away.

Young people were present at the time of this inspection.

Summary

This interim inspection was unannounced. Outstanding requirements from the previous inspection were checked for compliance. In addition to this, the outcome area of staying safe was inspected in line with the national minimum standards for children's homes.

The home continues to provide a good standard of care for young people. Management have responded promptly to a recommendation made at the last inspection. Young people continue to have their welfare safeguarded and promoted by staff who are skilled and competent at working with vulnerable groups.

The overall quality rating is good.

This is an overview of what the inspector found during the inspection.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection it was recommended that the recording of restraints show exactly where in the home these incidents took place. Evidence from this inspection demonstrates that this recommendation has been met.

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is not judged.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

Young people continue to be protected from harm and neglect. Staff remain skilled and competent in safeguarding young people and promoting their well-being. This includes effectively implementing strategies to deal with any episodes of bullying, missing from home and challenging behaviour which on occasion leads to restraint. Staff have improved practice in this area as any physical intervention is now recorded in compliance with these regulations.

Any young person wishing to make a formal complaint receives a prompt response from management, but any minor concerns are effectively dealt with at an informal level, as is evident in the minutes of young people's meetings. Young people are safeguarded as staff are trained to recognise the type of concern that may require child protection procedures to be invoked.

Sound auditing and risk assessment systems ensures that the physical safety of young people is secured. Young people are also protected by a recruitment and selection process that ensures all staff undergo appropriate background checks before starting work at the home.

Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do

The provision is not judged.

Helping children make a positive contribution

The provision is not judged.

Achieving economic wellbeing

The provision is not judged.

Organisation

The organisation is not judged.

What must be done to secure future improvement?

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions, which must be taken so that the registered person meets the Care Standards Act 2000, The Childrens Homes Regulations 2001 and the National Minimum Standards. The Registered Provider must comply with the given timescales.

Standard	Action	Due date
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Recommendations

There are no recommendations.