

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC019441
Inspection date	30/01/2013
Inspector	Philip Cass
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	16/08/2012
--------------------------------	------------

© Crown copyright 2013

Website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

This document may be reproduced in whole or in part for non-commercial educational purposes, provided that the information quoted is reproduced without adaptation and the source and date of publication are stated.

Service information

Brief description of the service

This short-break centre is run by a registered charity. It offers overnight short -break care places for up to five children and young people with learning disabilities, who may also have physical disabilities. Day care is also offered on the same site for children and young people with similar needs.

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 August 2012, the overall effectiveness rating for the service was judged to be good.

The service has made good progress since the last inspection. The management team and staff are focused on continual improvement. This improvement ensures that young people remain safe and well cared for. Young people report that they enjoy their stay and are well cared for.

One requirement and two recommendations were set at the last inspection. These matters have been fully addressed.

The registered persons were required to make a full record of any restraint, including management feedback, within 24 hours of the incident. The risk of abuse through inappropriate restraint is reduced because the manager reviews all restraints promptly. This includes an evaluation of the circumstances of the restraint and any lessons that may be learned to avoid the need for further restraint. The safety of

young people is further promoted because managers and staff now undertake training in safeguarding that is specific to the protection of children with disabilities. This training ensures that staff are well equipped to protect the young people who use the service.

It was recommended that the registered person take action to address any issues of concern identified through monitoring of the home. Quality assurance processes are improved because the manager now addresses any shortfalls identified promptly; this means that the service is improving. Quality assurance processes have been redesigned to promote effective communication between the manager and external visitors. They effectively identify areas of potential improvement. However, they do not routinely evaluate records of disciplinary measures, restraint, or missing from home incidents.

The home was also asked to improve the standard of decoration in bedroom areas. Bedrooms are now welcoming, fun and homely. Individual touches have been added without compromising the safety of young people. Young people actively participated in choosing the theme of each room and selecting pictures and furnishings. A young person particularly likes the jungle themed room and looks forward to his stays 'in the jungle'. Another young person prefers the seaside themed room stating that he likes 'going to the seaside' when he stays. Parents reflect that the bedrooms are 'absolutely fabulous' and 'really super'.

The home has also made improvements to the way that it seeks the views of young people and reflects these views in any changes to the home. Young people's meetings are now better organised to promote the involvement of a wider range of young people using the service. Because the minutes of these meetings are now produced in format accessible to young people, and displayed in the home, greater involvement in decision making is promoted.

Areas for improvement

Recommendations

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

- ensure that visits of the home carried out under Regulation 33 include relevant checks set out in regulations and guidance and checks of any disciplinary measures and use of restraint and records of missing person's reports. (NMS 21.7)

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*.