

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC023646
Inspection date	25 November 2009
Inspector	Lindy Latreille
Type of Inspection	Random

Date of last inspection	2 June 2009
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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 is a large detached house with a walled rear garden, situated in a residential area. It is within walking distance of local shops, railway station, cinema and the beach.

The home provides care and accommodation for up to eight young people, aged between 11 and 17 years. There are many areas for quiet relaxation, games, television and computers in the house.

Four young people currently live in the home.

Summary

This unannounced interim inspection looked at some of the standards under being healthy, staying safe, economic well-being and organisation. This includes the progress the setting has made with the requirements and recommendations made at the last inspection on 2 June 2009. This related to staff training in safeguarding procedures, the preparation of meals and notifying Ofsted of significant events as required by regulation.

The home is mostly well maintained and in good order, however there are examples where cleaning and maintenance would improve the environment for young people.

This home continues to provide a good level of care and work closely with placing social workers to ensure good outcomes for the young people placed. There were no young people present during this visit.

The overall quality rating is good.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

The Registered Manager has addressed all the actions and recommendations from the last report and provided training in basic food hygiene and safeguarding for all the staff. All notifications to Ofsted following the last inspection have been sent in a timely fashion to Ofsted.

Recommendations from the last report have been met with attendees at fire drills now recorded, staff keeping consistent health records and risk assessments for young people who self medicate. The training matrix is maintained centrally by head office and available within the home, the statement of purpose has been updated to reflect these additions.

Helping children to be healthy

The provision is good.

The provision of food and drink within the home remains good. Meal times are a social experience that staff and young people share. Meals served are recorded in the young people's daily logs. All staff have completed basic food hygiene training as required by the last inspection.

Health care plans are in place and continue to address the holistic needs of the young people. The practice of records identifying both imperial and metric measurements on file has been discontinued and the heights and weights of the young people are recorded following their

looked after children's medical examination. Targets and goals are reviewed monthly. Opportunities are offered to each young person to engage in healthy lifestyles and choices.

The home has no young people who are self medicating at present. The Registered Manager is aware that risk assessment is necessary when a young person in the home is following this practice.

Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe

The provision is good.

The young people's privacy is respected and information is confidentially handled. The staff continue to encourage respect for the individual young people and present good role models.

There have been no complaints since February 2009.

All matters have been appropriately referred to Local Safeguarding Children's Board and records are well organised to show outcomes. Appropriate notifications have been sent timely to Ofsted.

There is a low incidence of bullying which staff challenge swiftly and ensure that victims are protected.

Incidences of young person being absent without permission are recorded and the placing authority's social workers informed. Such incidents are reviewed in key working sessions where motivation is explored and targets set. These records are signed by the young person and key worker, there is evidence of quality audit by the Registered Manager.

Behaviour management continues to be well recorded and logged appropriately. Records show evidence of regular internal quality audit by the Registered Manager.

All measures continue to ensure health and safety within the home. When fire drills are called all persons attending are recorded. This meets the recommendation from the last report.

Recruitment of staff meets the required standard.

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 satisfactory.

The home is maintained in good order being well decorated, ventilated and lit. There is no evidence of damage in the common parts. As the young people were not in the home to give permission their rooms did not get inspected. The stair carpet has an area of staining on it and a bathroom on the second storey has chips in the enamel.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The training matrix is maintained at head office and circulated to the homes. Following updated training the statement of purpose is also amended centrally.

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
24	ensure that a chipped bath is satisfactorily repaired or replaced Regulation 31 (2) (d)	25 January 2010
24	ensure that all carpets are clean or replaced Regulation 31 (2) (e)	25 January 2010

Recommendations

There are no recommendations.