

Inspection report for children's home

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Inspection date	01/03/2012
Inspector	Lucy Ansell
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	05/07/2011
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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 (March 2011)*.

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.

Service information

Brief description of the service

This is a privately run children's home for three young people who are aged from 10 years and under 18 years old. Three young people live in the home, but were not present on this occasion.

Progress

Since their previous inspection the service is judged to be making **good** progress.

At the previous inspection, which was carried out in July 2011, the home was judged to be outstanding. Two recommendations were made. These have both been fully addressed and the home has made good progress since the last inspection.

The recommendation was to encourage the young people to receive personalised care that promotes all aspects of their individual identity and to ensure they are each treated as an individual rather than a member of a group. This pertained to young people's cultural background and health needs being fully explored. The home has completed some focused work on culture and identity and they have researched and spoken to health professionals about specific health needs and clarified that it is not currently applicable or an issue for the young people in the home.

Continued improvement was seen in social skills and in positive outcomes for the young people in the home. Young people have confidence and high self esteem which enables them to move forward and gain self promotion and achieve for themselves. This is evident in the inclusiveness of the home and in the reduction of any negative activities.

The other recommendation was to ensure that young people are supported to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding in support of their later transition into adult life. While the young people in the home are still below the age for moving on packages, the home has started to implement life skills and practicable knowledge into the week's routine. The young people now benefit from getting an early start with developing life skills that will support their transition in adulthood.

The home remains reflective in its practice and the manager is keen for the service to develop and continue to improve quality and outcomes for the young people. For example, there is always ongoing training and consultation with the staff team to develop their knowledge and understanding of important issues and full consultation with all the young people to continue the development of the home.