

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC028598
Inspection date	20/03/2012
Inspector	Seka Graovac
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	25/08/2011
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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 home is privately operated and provides long-term residential placements to four young women aged between 14 years and 18-years-old. The home extends its services to now offer care and support to expectant and young mothers. Young women are able to reside at the home with their babies. The service offers an outreach support service to young people 16-years-old and upwards who have moved on to independent accommodation.

Progress

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

The home had a full Ofsted inspection in August 2011. The overall effectiveness of the service was judged as good.

The home has continued to provide good quality care and support to young women. Staff effectively promote good outcomes for young women. Young women feel that their views are valued and their choices respected. In a stable and supportive environment, they have continued to make good progress in many aspects of their lives. They are engaging more in education. Their behaviour is much improved. They abscond less. They are developing healthier lifestyles. They enjoy having and deepening constructive relationships with their families and friends.

The management has appropriately addressed all three requirements and two recommendations that were raised at the full inspection. Staff have received training in behaviour management including physical intervention techniques. Monthly monitoring reports have been sent to Ofsted. A copy of the home's child protection procedure has been sent to the Local Authority Designated Officer for consideration and comment. Written consent for emergency medical treatment has been obtained for each young woman. The home has introduced a staff appraisal format and staff have started engaging in the performance appraisal process. However, the related requirement has been repeated, as none of the appraisals have been fully completed, as yet.

Some other weaknesses have been identified at this visit. Three new requirements have been raised. They all relate to record keeping. The weaknesses do not have a direct impact on the quality of support that young women receive. Better record keeping of the staff duty rosters and physical interventions is required. The home must keep the information on staff that is included in the Statement of Purpose up to date.

The home focuses effectively on providing emotional and practical support to young

women in line with their needs, wishes and choices. In consultation with them, the manager has purchased a new television set for each bedroom.

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 under review and revise the Statement of Purpose to ensure that full and up to date information is included (Regulations 4(1) and 5(a) Schedule 1)	02/05/2012
17B (2001)	ensure that a written record of any physical intervention contains all the details as listed in the Regulation (Regulation 17B(3))	18/04/2012
27 (2001)	ensure that all staff receive an appropriate appraisal (Regulation 27(4)(a))	21/06/2012
29 (2001)	keep an accurate record of the staff duty roster. (Regulation 29(1) Schedule 4.11)	28/03/2012

Recommendations

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