

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC030967
Inspection date	11/01/2013
Inspector	Dennis Bradley
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	18/09/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home provides residential care for up to eight children and young people, usually offering short breaks, but sometimes they can stay for a few weeks. Children and young people who use the home have a learning disability and associated challenging behaviour categorised as mild to moderate. The local authority owns and operates this setting.

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**.

The home was judged to be good at the last full inspection. Since then the manager and staff have worked effectively to further improve the service to young people and their families.

There were two requirements and four recommendations made at the last inspection. The Statement of Purpose for the home now clearly specifies the type of placements it currently provides. This ensures the information is readily accessible to parents who may be considering using the service. Improvements have been made to the arrangements for monitoring the service to improve the quality of care provided to young people. These will help make sure any issues or concerns are identified and addressed quickly. Records of incidents where staff have had to use physical restraint on young people are now clearly recorded and include the required information. This enables appropriate monitoring of such incidents by the registered person, to ensure the use of restraint is appropriate and effective. The Registered Manager now also ensures risk assessments for young people are kept up to date.

This helps make sure staff have the information they need about how to meet each young person's needs and keep them safe. The home now maintains a suitable record demonstrating that staff have undergone appropriate recruitment and vetting checks. These checks help make sure only suitable people are employed to care for the young people.

Young people continue to enjoy their short breaks and they have positive relationships with staff. The staff make sure activities are varied and are tailored to meet young people's individual needs and wishes. This helps them gain confidence in their abilities and builds their self-esteem.

Staff are working with young people and their families to develop and promote young people's independence skills. This includes using methods of communication which take account of each young person's needs and capabilities in order to support and engage them. Staff are good at celebrating young people's achievements which also helps build their confidence and self-esteem.

Regular consultation takes place to ascertain the views and wishes of the young people, their families and social workers. This helps the Registered Manager and staff team to develop the service in a meaningful way that addresses the needs and wishes of young people and their families.

There are no requirements or recommendations arising from this inspection.

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*.