

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC031504
Inspection date	03/03/2014
Inspector	Diana Waters
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	25/11/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home is managed by Bristol City Council. It provides care and accommodation for up to 10 children and young people, aged from five to 17 years at any one time, who have a learning disability and who may also have a physical disability. The home also provides an overnight short breaks service.

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 **satisfactory progress**.

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At the full inspection of the home in November 2013, the overall quality rating for the service was good. The home has made satisfactory progress in addressing the two requirements.

The service has taken action to improve the quality of the recruitment procedures and managers check application forms at interview.

Improvements have been made to the positive intervention records, which now specifically include the use of the calming room. However, the quality of the records are inconsistent, specifically the methods used to avoid this measure. In addition, the monitoring of positive interventions by senior staff is not sufficiently robust. As a result, part of the requirement made at the last inspection has been repeated.

Age appropriate garden play equipment is provided for the younger age group and the garden is well used. The bikes are popular and the children are able to easily access this area directly from the dining room. The older age group enjoy using the newly introduced electronic equipment, but would also benefit from age appropriate play equipment in the field area of the home. The current consultation to changes to the service and budgetary restrictions mean this equipment is not at present a top priority. Staff are researching appropriate cost effective solutions. This recommendation has been repeated

The service provides a warm and welcoming home adapted to the individual needs of young people, who continue to benefit from good regular respite care. The young people enjoy warm and positive relationships staff build with them, their parents, schools and social workers. Parents comment 'your time and patience with our child and us, together with your dedication and commitment is nothing short of astonishing', 'knowing my child is safe, happy and well cared for enables us to truly relax'.

Staff work hard with young people to promote self-care and independence and help young people to enjoy their stay. Achievements are celebrated and young people are supported to access a variety of social and leisure opportunities in the home and local community.

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
17B (2001)	ensure the written records, are made in a volume kept for that purpose and are consistent with Regulation 17B that include details of any methods used to avoid the need to use that measure. (Regulation 17B (4))	31/05/2014

Recommendations

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

- provide the necessary facilities, specifically suitable age-appropriate garden play equipment, for the older young people to promote their development.(NMS 10)

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*.