

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC032315
Inspection date	12/02/2014
Inspector	Liz Driver
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	25/07/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home provides short break care and accommodation for up to five children with learning or physical disabilities. The home is operated by a local authority and is fully equipped to deal with the needs of the children.

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**.

At the last inspection carried out in July 2013 the service was judged as outstanding for overall effectiveness. No requirements or recommendations were made however this is a service that strives for continual improvement.

The staff team offer a wealth of knowledge and experience which is implemented in practice to improve outcomes for those in their care. This is a highly resourceful service that benefits children and their families. It is focused on children in all aspects of their care, support and intervention. Children accessing the service continue to receive an exceptional standard of care which successfully addresses their individual and complex needs, including some complex health care needs. Close working with a range of health related professionals results in consistency in delivery of care.

There are positive outcomes for young people's behaviour management as a result of continued multi professional input such as a representative from a children and adolescent mental health service attending the staff team meeting on a regular basis. Staff are competent in adapting approved methods of behaviour management

and de-escalation methods to ensure they meet individual needs. As a result there are low numbers of incidents where intervention is required.

An excellent focus on life skills training has resulted in some young people being able to cook meals and participate in baking sessions which they thoroughly enjoy. The staff team are able to identify individual life skills that need developing and work with young people to gain very good outcomes. The trusting relationships developed with staff results in young people gaining increased confidence and self esteem. The staff team have skills that enable them to gain a very good insight into young people's individual preferences. Staff listen to young people and make changes to the provision as a result, such as preferred bedroom allocation.

Young people continue to benefit from staying in a home that is well maintained and decorated. Young people enjoy the recently decorated and improved sensory room. Staff are keen to extend children's social experiences. Excellent planning results in young people who struggle with social integration, due to their disability, successfully accessing activities within the community. Other children, for example those with physical disabilities, are able to access cycling using modified equipment and play musical instruments such as the new set of drums that are adapted to ensure all young people can play.

The frequency of fire evacuation drills has increased with all young people experiencing a fire drill. A recent fire risk assessment has highlighted a few minor areas of work to do; they are currently being addressed.

The management of this setting is strong and effective. The registered manager has excellent oversight of the young people and the staff's practices. She leads by example and is an excellent role model; she has the full support of her staff team.

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*.