

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC032565
Inspection date	14/02/2012
Inspector	Louise Redfern
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	26/11/2011
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This home is operated by a local authority. The home is registered as a children's home for up to six young people at any one time. The service offers short break care only for children and young people with severe learning and/or physical disabilities of either gender.

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 as outstanding at the last full inspection in November 2011. No statutory requirements or recommendations were made at this inspection.

The home continues to provide exceptional care for young people who, as a result, achieve excellent outcomes. Young people benefit from a resource that is warm and nurturing. The staff team are dedicated and skilled in their practice providing individualised complex care for young people with severe learning and/or physical disabilities.

The home has continued to develop their practice and make improvements in the care of the young people. The staff team now have access to electronic social care records relating to the young people. This enables the team to be more prepared for the young people's visits, improves communication between agencies and allows effective contribution to the young people's care plans.

The Registered Manager ensures young people maintain important relationships with

the team members they have identified as being significant in their care. The rota has been adjusted to meet the individual needs of the young people. This ensures that they benefit from staff members they have built a relationship with being part of their experience at the home. They are then more comfortable and relaxed during their stay. The Registered Manager has recently reviewed the whole group of young people accessing the service and made some changes to their individual planned breaks. This has enabled them to be matched more appropriately to other young people with similar needs, which maximises their individual experiences during their stay.

The Registered Manager has developed a transition plan for those young people who will move from children's services into adult's provision over the next year. This enables young people and their families to be supported and prepared for the significant changes in their care, in a well-planned and timely manner.

There have been changes in the way the home is monitored; Regulation 33 visitors now conduct their visits when young people are accessing the service. This ensures the visitors have the opportunity to consult with young people and effectively monitor activities relating to the quality of care at the home.

The continued success of the home is due to a dedicated and settled staff team who are supported through a positive and proactive manager. They benefit from continued motivation, praise and personal development, which enhance the quality of care. There is an ongoing commitment to providing a high quality service.

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)*.