

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC033919
Inspection date	05/02/2013
Inspector	Muhammed Harunur Rashid
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	28/08/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The children's home is owned and run by a local authority and provides short breaks for children and young people with learning, sensory and physical disabilities. There are five beds available in the home to provide overnight and holiday stays.

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 in August 2012 the overall effectiveness rating for the service was judged as outstanding. One recommendation was made relating to making a minor amendment to the children's guide. The children's home updated the children's guide immediately after the last full inspection.

This interim inspection has identified that the home's capacity for continual improvement is excellent. Young people continue to make good progress across all aspects of their development and placement outcomes. Young people attend schools, colleges or other provisions during their short breaks. The short break service respond very well to the young people's complex physical and emotional health needs. Young people attend various sport activities and visits to various places of their interests. A number of young people have attended the Para Olympic events in September 2012. Young people develop a wide range of independent living skills within their high dependency levels. They learn to shop and plan to prepare a meal as part of the life skills towards future semi-independent living.

Individualised care plans are tailored to meet young people's individual needs. Young

people have individualised positive behaviour management programmes and risk assessments are in place. Comprehensive strategies are in place to reduce or eliminate the identified risks and these documents are regularly updated.

Young people live in a safe and nurturing environment. They feel safe in the home. The home has recently upgraded the premises to ensure an easy access for disabled young people. Young people are safeguarded through appropriate safeguarding policies and procedures and staff knowledge and skills on safeguarding. Safeguarding issues are addressed at each handover and staff meetings.

Staff are very effective in communicating with young people who are non-verbal or have communication difficulties through various communication methods and listen to their concerns.

Current staffing levels are appropriate to meet young people's complex assessed needs. The Registered Manager reviews staffing levels in accordance with the overall needs of young people. All staff receive regular supervision and appraisals from their line manager. Weekly team meeting promotes good communication between the staff team. The service offers annual refresher training to staff to update their knowledge and skills in many areas. This includes training on first aid, manual handling and physical intervention.

Systems and practice within the home are constantly under review and improvements made whenever necessary. The six monthly overall development work of the service was completed in November 2012. Quality assurance systems which include regulation 34 checks and Regulation 33 visits are robust and the findings are always shared with the 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*.