

Inspection report for children's home

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Inspection date	17/01/2012
Inspector	Maria McGranaghan
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	15/06/2011
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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)*.

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.

Service information

Brief description of the service

The home provides care and accommodation to four young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties. It specialises in working with young people who suffer from an attachment disorder or difficulty. The home is managed by a private company.

Progress

Since their previous inspection the service is judged to be making **good** progress.

The last inspection was carried out in June 2011 and was judged as good. The children's home has demonstrated continued improvement in the quality of care and outcomes for children and young people. The recommendation made at the last inspection has been suitably addressed. As a result, records held within the home have been developed. They now contain detailed information about the young people. Similarly, records are easily cross referenced providing a transparent account of all work undertaken within the home. Young people continue to thrive in a home that ensures care needs are met to a high standard.

Young people are looked after by experienced, competent and qualified staff. Excellent training, supervision and support enables the staff to maintain high standards of care in a consistent and planned way. As a result, young people are achieving good outcomes. Consultation is viewed with high regard. Young people influence decisions made in the home and the way individual care packages are developed. Keywork and group sessions are extremely focused and assist young people to make gradual changes to their behaviour and social attitudes.

Placements are stable with young people beginning to take responsibility for their behaviour. There are no behaviour management concerns. Young people's education is consistently promoted. School attendance and attainment is excellent. All young people actively engage with their education programmes and are making good progress. The smallest achievement made by the young people is commended within the home. As a result, young people have improved self confidence and motivation and this is evident in the sustained progress they make.

Young people's individual differences are extremely well managed. Thorough care planning ensures that young people understand their heritage and are supported to explore this further. Young people regularly attend church, festive days and celebrations. A dedicated diversity play room enhances their learning experiences and offers further opportunities to explore their world.

The home uses good thematic approaches to support all aspects of learning including holidays, activities and outings. Young people are integrated well into the community

and have developed friendships with local children.

The home's aims and objectives are being met. There are good quality assurance systems being used to monitor the operation, management, young people's welfare and the home's records. Realistic and challenging targets are outlined within the home's development plan. Very good monitoring systems are used that comply with the requirements of Regulations 33 and 34. Planning for the future is founded on robust evidence which identifies areas of weakness and builds on the many areas of strength that the service consistently demonstrates.