

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC035241
Inspection date	19/01/2012
Inspector	Ann-Marie Born
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Residential special school (>295 days/year)

Date of last inspection	05/05/2011
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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 children's home is operated by a charitable trust and registered to accommodate four children of either sex aged from five to 17 years who have a sensory impairment. The children attend a community special school for deaf children which is next to the home and is also operated by the trust.

Progress

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

This interim inspection focused on the progress made by the home since the last full inspection in May 2011, at which the overall judgement was good. One requirement and two recommendations were raised and all have been met.

Children and young people are effectively safeguarded by the development and implementation of a comprehensive missing children policy which is compliant with the Local Safeguarding Children Board 'Running Away from Home and Care Protocol'. The excellent admissions policy ensures that the home is able to meet the assessed needs of children and young people thereby promoting their well-being and opportunities for progress.

Children and young people know their rights to advocacy and have appropriate access to a range of advocates, including the Children's Rights Director. This promotes inclusion and ensures they are able to gain independent guidance and support if they so wish.

Children and young people continue to experience genuine care from a stable and dedicated staff team who are well supported by the proactive and enthusiastic Registered Manager. Children and young people are being provided with a safe, caring and stimulating environment where they can develop and achieve in areas of physical and emotional well-being. The strong commitment to education enables children and young people to achieve to their full potential thereby increasing their self-esteem and improving positive behaviours. Children and young people thrive as a result of the opportunities provided to develop their personal and social skills. This includes participating in activities in the wider community and being able to pursue hobbies and interests.

No breaches of regulation or shortfalls in meeting the national minimum standards are identified as a result of this inspection.