

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC042978
Inspection date	24/01/2013
Inspector	Rebecca Sharp
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	17/10/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home provides short breaks for young people with learning disabilities and physical disabilities. It provides short breaks for up to five young people at any time. A total of 43 young people use the service.

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 home's last full inspection in October 2012, the overall effectiveness was judged as outstanding. The purpose of this inspection is to monitor the progress made since the last inspection. There were no requirements or recommendations made at the last inspection. No shortfalls were found during this visit.

This is an exceptional short-break service for young people with disabilities which offers a remarkable quality of care for young people. Staff are extremely dedicated to improving the lives of the young people who access the service, and offer them an array of opportunities which develop their leisure, communication and social skills. As a result, young people are more independent, develop friendships and learn new skills. The home has excellent relationships with local schools and communicates daily with teachers. This promotes positive educational outcomes for young people and ensures care plans reflect each individual's most current needs.

The home has undergone some extensive refurbishment to the communal areas of the home since the last inspection. The lounge has been redecorated and furnished to mirror young people's family environment. Young people enjoy spending time in

here, one young person said, 'Like it'. It has been finished to a very high standard and is a focal point of the home.

The most significant development in the home is the implementation of 'my voice'. This is a new system that records the wishes and feelings of young people. Staff record when young people have exercised choice; in particular around what activities they want to take part in and what foods they want to eat. Care is taken to recognise all aspects of communication as a large percentage of young people who access the service do not communicate verbally. This evidences that young people are consulted with regularly, and that they have a substantial influence over the day-to-day running of the home. This imaginative piece of work evidences the home's continual commitment to improving the quality of care provided to young people.

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*.