

## Inspection report for Children's Home

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| <b>Unique reference number</b> | SC043732    |
| <b>Inspection date</b>         | 07/01/2011  |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | Elaine Cray |
| <b>Type of inspection</b>      | Random      |

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|--------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Date of last inspection</b> | 15/11/2010 |
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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.

This report details the main strengths and any areas for improvement identified during the inspection. The judgements included in the report are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004 and the relevant National Minimum Standards for the service.

### The inspection judgements and what they mean

|               |                                                               |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Outstanding:  | this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality |
| Good:         | this aspect of the provision is strong                        |
| Satisfactory: | this aspect of the provision is sound                         |
| Inadequate:   | this aspect of the provision is not good enough               |

## **Service information**

### **Brief description of the service**

The service is a home for up to five young people with a learning and/or physical disability. The building is set in large grounds and accommodation is spread over three wings and two floors. Ground floor accommodation comprises of a lounge area, bedrooms, two bathrooms, kitchen, dining room, a lounge, soft play area, laundry facilities and offices. The first floor is mainly unused office space, although there is a sensory room and art room which are used by the young people. The home has specialist moving and handling equipment and baths available for young people with physical disabilities.

The home is situated half a mile from the centre of town, which has a range of shops and amenities. A vehicle with wheelchair access is available for young people to access community facilities.

### **Summary**

The overall quality rating is good.

This is an overview of what the inspector found during the inspection.

This was an unannounced interim inspection. The visit was planned to assess the care provided to children against key national minimum standards under the staying safe outcome area.

The judgements set on the full inspection undertaken in November 2010 are unchanged on this limited interim inspection.

The evidence gathered on this interim inspection supports the findings of the full inspection confirming that the service continues to safeguard children to a good standard. However the last fire drill is late and some sanctions are to be reviewed.

### **Improvements since the last inspection**

There were no actions or recommendations set at the last inspection.

### **Helping children to be healthy**

The provision is not judged.

## **Protecting children from harm or neglect and helping them stay safe**

The provision is good.

Young people are protected by well-trained staff with a good understanding of clear procedures and practices for promoting their welfare. The needs, behaviour and safety of young people are clearly identified and responded to with appropriate staffing levels and practical care strategies. Staff are aware of who to notify about serious incidents in the home.

Staffing levels are high and the supervision of young people is detailed. Although young people need high levels of supervision, there is a good level of respect for young people's privacy and dignity. Young people's needs in relation to personal and intimate care are detailed in their care plan and this, along with clear procedures for staff, ensures that young people's privacy and dignity is upheld.

There is a countering bullying policy. Young people are protected from the actions of others by high levels of staff supervision and by staff having an in-depth awareness of the needs and behaviours presented by the young people. There is a written complaints procedure and an additional leaflet in symbol form to enable individuals who may not be able to read to understand the procedure. Young people at the home have complex communication needs and staff have an excellent awareness about how the young people may display expressions of dissatisfaction.

Young people are enabled and supported to manage, develop and improve their behaviour. Staff are trained in behaviour management and physical intervention and consistently explore and assess the presenting and sometimes complex behaviour exhibited by young people. Records are well maintained and there are ongoing developments to further improve the central recording systems in the home. Young people live and grow in a stable and nurturing environment where staff promote clear boundaries, consistent expectations and interactive relationships with young people. Although, there are some repetitive sanctions that appear not to have impacted on young people, their behaviour is generally well managed. Staff are proud of the improvements and achievements of young people and these are identified in well-maintained records.

The home has clear policies and procedures regarding the recruitment of staff which are in line with the Children's Homes Regulations 2001 and national minimum standards. Visitors to the home are vetted to ensure the safety of young people.

The physical environment is well maintained and monitored in terms of health and safety and there is comprehensive and detailed documentation. The majority of fire safety procedures are checked and monitored, but the fire drill is not up to date.

**Helping children achieve well and enjoy what they do**

The provision is not judged.

**Helping children make a positive contribution**

The provision is not judged.

**Achieving economic wellbeing**

The provision is not judged.

**Organisation**

The organisation is not judged.

**What must be done to secure future improvement?****Statutory Requirements**

This section sets out the actions, which must be taken so that the registered person/s meets the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes Regulations 2001 and the National Minimum Standards. The Registered Provider(s) must comply with the given timescales.

| <b>Std.</b> | <b>Action</b>                                                                  | <b>Due date</b> |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 26          | ensure fire drills are carried out at suitable intervals. (Regulation 32.1(e)) | 11/02/2011      |

**Recommendations**

To improve the quality and standards of care further the registered person should take account of the following recommendation(s):

- ensure disciplinary measures are designed to help the children modify their behaviour. (NMS 22.3)