

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC059853
Inspection date	24/01/2012
Inspector	Maria McGranaghan
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	11/07/2011
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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

This local authority home provides a short-breaks service for up to six children and young people who have a permanent and substantial disability.

Progress

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

At the last inspection on 11 July 2011 the service was judged to be outstanding.

The service is judged to be making good progress. Young people continue to enjoy short-break stays within a service that offers exceptional quality of care. Young people's needs, views and opinions are at the forefront of all decisions made within the home, and serve to strengthen the already excellent relationships with young people and their families.

Young people are actively supported to learn a range of skills assisting them to become as independent as possible. Some young people have made a positive transition to adult services while others continue to make exceptional progress particularly in areas of behaviour management, trying out new activities and developing social skills.

Young people have taken part in developing an application for funding for a new pool table and camping equipment. Having been successful, young people have experienced camping for the first time. This trip enabled many of them to use the skills they had learned, including helping to erect the tents and cooking with staff. Photographs clearly show young people's engagement and serve to capture the excitement in their faces.

The home has been redecorated and looks warm and comfortable. Each young person has created a new door plaque which clearly encapsulates their unique personalities and interests. Staff work closely with families and external services to ensure each young person is provided with the right level of care. For example, speech and language services ensure that communication aids used within the service are at an appropriate level for each young person. This ensures that young people are given the right resources in order to communicate with staff and be looked after in accordance with their individual needs.

The service is consistently monitored, meeting the requirements of Regulation 33 and 34. The manager and staff work closely together to maintain high standards of care that are evident in the excellent outcomes young people are achieving.