

Inspection report for children's home

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Inspection date	08/03/2012
Inspector	Michelle Spruce
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	17/11/2011
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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 children's home provides care and accommodation for up to five children and young people, of either sex, aged from eight years to 17 years, who have a learning disability.

Progress

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

At the last inspection in November 2011, the overall quality rating for the service was judged as good. There was one requirement and one recommendation made. Action was required in relation to the fire doors. All doors fit neatly into the frames and provide safe protection against the risk of fire. As a result, children, young people, staff and visitors remain safe.

Improvement was necessary to provide children and young people the opportunity to be seen by a medical practitioner following physical intervention. Since the last inspection, the manager has improved the physical intervention log. There is now a place to record that children and young people are offered the opportunity to see a medical practitioner following restraint.

Children and young people continue to thrive in a warm and welcoming environment that meets individual needs. This is due to the committed and dedicated approach staff take and the strong trusting relationships between children, young people and staff. Staff consult with the children and young people on a regular basis and now have a key work document in Widget form. This empowers children and young people with limited verbal ability to give their views and opinions about the service and care they receive. As a result, children and young people's quality of care improves, along with their confidence and independence.

Since the last inspection, the home has employed new staff to improve the support to children and young people. The manager confirms that all relevant checks are made in regards to recruitment and selection to ensure candidates meet the criteria before employment.

The leadership and management of the home are effective and the manager continues to evaluate and act on her findings to improve outcomes for children and young people. Their rights are represented because they have good access to an independent advocate who provides additional support. Staff are committed and supportive towards the children and young people in their care, which ensures that children and young people's rights are fully explored to gain the best possible outcomes.