

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC068803
Inspection date	15 March 2010
Inspector	Lucy Ansell
Type of Inspection	Random

Date of last inspection	24 August 2009
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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 outcome for children set out in the Children Act 2004 and relevant National Minimum Standards for the establishment.

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 children's home occupies a large farmhouse style property with extensive outdoor space surrounded by fields and countryside. It has four bedrooms for residents and an office/sleep-in room, located over two floors. Each young person has their own room. There is a converted building next to the house which contains a gym, table tennis and pool rooms. The nearest town and village would be have to be accessed by car.

Summary

This was an unannounced, interim inspection. The focus of the inspection was on judging the outcomes for staying safe. No recommendations or actions were made at this inspection. This is a good service obtaining positive outcomes for young people. Young people's welfare is enhanced by the good relationships with staff and with each other. Young people are kept safe and staff have a strong focus on safeguarding.

The overall quality rating is good.

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

Improvements since the last inspection

There were no recommendations or actions made 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's privacy is respected and confidential information is appropriately stored and shared. There are arrangements in place to ensure the young people have access to a telephone to make private calls.

Young people have a system to raise complaints or concerns and make appropriate use of this. In the young people's guide and around the house, there is information concerning advice on advocacy and independent agencies.

Clear procedures and systems that are in line with the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures are used effectively by staff to ensure the young people are kept safe. All staff are trained in safeguarding, and staff have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities in keeping the young people safe.

Staff take positive steps to identify any bullying traits. The young people mostly get along with each other and have not raised concerns about this issue. Supervision ensures that the risk is low and staff are attentive to the young people's concerns.

The behaviour of young people in the home is generally good with encouragement through appropriate boundary setting and negotiation. Sanctions are used appropriately and are suitable. Sanctions' records are well maintained, monitored and recorded. Records monitored by the monthly regulation visits confirm that good standards are maintained. The Registered Manager

scrutinises and addresses trends and themes. Physical intervention is seldom used and records meet regulatory requirements. Staff training in physical intervention is current.

Fire prevention measures are in place and all records meet the requirements. All checks for gas and electrical equipment are in place and current. The arrangements for meeting the control of substances hazardous to health is good. Risk assessments are in place for the home, individual young people and their activities.

Young people are protected by sound staff recruitment and selection procedures.

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 meets the Care Standards Act 2000, The Children's Homes Regulations 2001 and the National Minimum Standards. The Registered Provider must comply with the given timescales.

Standard	Action	Due date
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Recommendations

There are no recommendations.