

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC355755
Inspection date	26/01/2012
Inspector	Debbie Foster
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	17/10/2011
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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

The privately owned children's home provides care and accommodation for one young person aged from eight to 17 years. The service will take planned and emergency placements of young people.

Progress

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

At the last inspection in October 2011, the overall judgement for the effectiveness of the home was good. Young people are continuing to make progress in developing independence skills, increasing educational attendance, positive behaviour, and in improving their health and social skills. A young person said, 'I'm learning to cook meals and I'm okay at it,' and 'I'm alright at managing my money and I now have a weekly allowance.'

The one requirement made at the last inspection has been met. The home has a record which includes the information specified in Schedule 3 relating to the young person in residence. This includes details of the care the placing authority wish to be provided to the young person to meet their individual needs.

Two recommendations have not been implemented in full. Although some staff have a level 3 qualification and all new staff have commenced the level 3 Children and Young Peoples Workforce Diploma, not all have achieved this qualification. This does not meet the recommended target of 100% of staff attaining this qualification. This does not ensure that all staff have the professional qualification to support them in being able to meet the needs of young people. The home's development plan has not yet been updated. The plan does not detail specifically, how the service intends to bring further improvements to the quality of care and outcomes for young people.

Areas for improvement

Recommendations

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

- ensure all staff attain level 3 Children and Young Peoples Workforce Diploma (NMS 18)
- provide an up-to-date development plan which identifies the specific areas for improvement or development. (NMS 15)