

Inspection report for Children's Home

Unique reference number	SC357468
Inspection date	27/01/2011
Inspector	Anthony Kyem
Type of inspection	Random

Date of last inspection	12/05/2010
--------------------------------	------------

© Crown copyright 2011

Website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

This document may be reproduced in whole or in part for non-commercial educational purposes, provided that the information quoted is reproduced without adaptation and the source and date of publication are stated.

You can obtain copies of The Children Act 2004, Every Child Matters and The National Minimum Standards for Children's Services from: The Stationery Office (TSO) PO Box 29, St Crispins, Duke Street, Norwich, NR3 1GN. Tel: 0870 600 5522. Online ordering: www.tso.co.uk/bookshop

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 home provides care and accommodation for one young person of either sex aged between 11 and 17 years. The home is a detached property situated in a private residential area. There is a local bus service providing access to the town centre.

The accommodation provided for young people includes a lounge, kitchen, dining area and three separate bedrooms, one of which is also used as an office. The young person has their own bedroom with private en-suite facilities. There is a bathroom on the first floor and a separate toilet on the ground floor. To the rear of the property is an enclosed garden with patio area.

Summary

The overall quality rating is good.

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

This short unannounced interim inspection, was undertaken to assess the home's performance in meeting the outcome area for staying safe. The outcome areas for being healthy, enjoying and achieving, positive contribution, economic well-being and organisation were not inspected on this occasion. Recommendations made at the previous inspection, were also looked at to monitor compliance with the standards and regulations.

Young people's safety is effectively promoted. There are no issues with bullying and young people are safeguarded and protected from abuse. Risks are carefully assessed on young people's admission and their risk assessments are updated, where required. Staff are trained to provide care safely and this includes relevant training on managing young people's behaviours. There are effective systems in place, to promote health and safety within the home.

Improvements since the last inspection

No actions were made at the last inspection. Of the four recommendations made, one is no longer relevant, as the young person in residence has since left school. Of the remaining three recommendations, all but one, have been met successfully.

The home has ensured that staff are trained or enrolled to complete, the National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) training at level 3 and young people receive continuity of care. However, young people do not have pathway plans in place, to support them in making the transition towards adulthood. Consequently, another recommendation has been made in respect of this issue.

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 their records are treated and stored confidentially. Young people are provided with their own bedrooms and washing facilities to promote their privacy and dignity. Young people are supported by staff of the same gender in accordance with their needs.

No complaints have occurred since the previous inspection. Young people are safeguarded and there are no current concerns to do with bullying or with young people placing themselves at risk of significant harm. Staff are aware of their responsibilities in respect of safeguarding, in which all staff are suitably trained. The home's policies and procedures in relation to safeguarding, complaints, bullying and unauthorised absence are clearly understood and these are implemented effectively, to promote young people's welfare and safety.

The systems in place for managing young people's behaviours are undertaken fairly, with great emphasis placed on rewarding young people for their positive behaviour. Physical intervention and the use of sanctions is not needed or used, with young people's behaviours managed very effectively.

Matters in respect of health and safety are managed efficiently. There are regular fire drills and safety checks undertaken to the home's fire safety equipment and annual checks are also undertaken to the home's gas and potable electrical appliances. Evidence was also seen to show that the home has had a full periodic electrical inspection.

Young people are protected through the home's robust recruitment practices. Staff employed are all subject to stringent checks to assess their fitness and suitability.

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?

Recommendations

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

- ensure that young people have a written pathway plan to enable them to make the transition towards adulthood. (NMS 6.1)