

Inspection report for children's home

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Inspection date	07/02/2012
Inspector	Elaine Clare
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	08/11/2011
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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

The children's home provides accommodation for one young person of either sex from 10 years to 17 years of age. The home is operated by a private organisation.

Progress

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

The overall effectiveness of this service was judged outstanding at the last full inspection in November 2011. There were no requirements or recommendations made at this inspection.

Managers and staff are committed to further improve the quality of care at the home. Young people's physical, psychological and behavioural welfare is central to all aspects of care planning and practical support. The quality and detail of individual plans is good and young people's welfare needs continue to be fully considered and addressed. In addition, plans are regularly updated to reflect new developments. This process is highly individual and fully involves young people. A separate consultation document demonstrates highly effectively how young people are consulted and encouraged to contribute to the content and design of their care objectives.

The home continues to support the staff team with a good range of professional development and training opportunities. Training is designed to equip staff with the skills required to meet the specific needs of the young people in placement. All staff have received child protection and safeguarding training as part of their induction and/or at some stage of their employment. An experienced team of senior managers continues to ensure that young people are well supported by an effective and well managed staff team. There is excellent commitment from the management and staff team to improve outcomes for young people. A very experienced team of permanent staff is able to meet the individual needs of the young people currently resident. Continuity of care is a particular strength of the home. The majority of staff have worked as part of this team for a number of years and staff turnover is minimal.

The home provides an appropriate environment for young people and staff to work hard to maintain the premises to the best possible standard.