

Inspection report for children's home

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Inspection date	09/02/2012
Inspector	Louise Redfern
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	27/09/2011
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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 is registered to provide care and accommodation for two young people of either gender with emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. The home is operated by the local authority.

Progress

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

At the previous full inspection, in September 2011, the overall effectiveness of the service was judged as good. There were no requirements or recommendations made. The Registered Manager and staff team have demonstrated a continued improvement in the quality of care and positive outcomes for young people. This has included young people making excellent progress and continuing to flourish, develop and achieve individual goals.

Since the last inspection, the Registered Manager has introduced further safeguarding measures regarding the safe storage and handling of medication. This has resulted in staff reporting that there is more accountability and better monitoring of medication in the home.

The Registered Manager is committed to the development of the staff team as a group and as individuals, therefore young people benefit from a committed, highly skilled and motivated staff team. Since the last inspection, the Registered Manager has ensured that all staff have received medication training and first aid training. A new training matrix has been developed to enable the Registered Manager and staff to have a clear overview of training that is completed, planned and outstanding.

Young people continue to make outstanding progress in their individual development; for example, they have made significant progress in their educational attainment resulting in securing full-time educational placement, which will lead to an apprenticeship. Since the last inspection, young people have successfully transitioned from the home into independent living. They have been fully supported in their move by the staff team; following this transition team members have continued to offer support, for example, donating furniture and decorating their new home with them.

The Registered Manager and staff team have developed their admission process, this has ensured that the young people in placement have been supported with the change and the young people moving into the placement feel safe and secure. Following an admission a professional commented 'I think this welcome must rank as one of the best by far.'

There have been improvements to the decoration of the home. Young people have been fully involved in choosing the colours and wallpaper; this encourages young people to feel valued and part of the home they live in.

Young people benefit from an enthusiastic and motivated Registered Manager and staff team who are committed to improving outcomes and providing a good level of care.