

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC397344
Inspection date	05/02/2013
Inspector	Caroline Jones
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	08/06/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The home is part of a charitable organisation. It provides care and accommodation for up to four young people with physical and learning disabilities.

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.

Progress

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

At the previous full inspection in June 2012 the home's overall effectiveness was judged as good. The service to young people continues to progress and all recommendations have been addressed. Improved monitoring scrutinises the quality of care and enhanced behaviour management strategies reinforce a stable and safe environment for young people. Additionally, improved consultation processes are in place to gain feedback from young people's families and professionals to develop practice further. Equality and diversity is well established within the home and young people participate in decisions about their lives.

Young people continue to grow across all aspects of their development. Their attendance at school is excellent and they take part in a range of positive activities that they enjoy, such as, youth clubs, bowling and pop concerts. This provides a sense of achievement for young people. Furthermore, improved planning arrangements promote young people's skills for independent living in the future. Staff champion the health and well-being of young people and ensure their individual needs for support and services are secured. These practices contribute to the high standard of care received by young people.

Young people benefit from a committed staff team which is evident in the warm and positive relationships they have forged. Young people are able to communicate their choices, likes and dislikes, through staff fully understanding each young person's individual mannerisms and communication. This ensures their views and needs are sought and acted upon in daily life. Young people's individual differences are celebrated and valued consequently their personalities flourish.

The home is efficiently managed and effective in meeting its Statement of Purpose. Planning for the future is founded on a solid evidence base which identifies areas of weakness and builds on the many areas of strength that this service demonstrates. The Registered Manager stimulates the enthusiasm of staff and ensures their development in providing quality care to young people. Staff have access to regular training and confirm that they 'enjoy' their work. They have induction, regular supervision, appraisals, and team meetings that contribute to their competence in providing care to young people. Although, an induction programme is available for new staff this is not completed in a timely manner to ensure they are equipped with the necessary skills and competence from the onset of their employment. Additionally, visits by a designated person in accordance with regulation take place but these have not been received by Ofsted.

Areas for improvement

Statutory Requirements

This section sets out the actions which must be taken so that the registered person/s meets the Care Standards Act 2000, Children's Homes Regulations 2001 and the National Minimum Standards. The registered person(s) must comply with the given timescales.

Reg.	Requirement	Due date
33 (2001)	ensure that copies of the report completed in accordance with the regulation are forwarded to HMCI. (Regulation 33 (5)(a))	05/03/2013

Recommendations

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

- ensure that new staff undertake the Children's Workforce Development Council's induction standards commencing within seven working days of starting their employment. (NMS 18.3)

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*.