

Inspection report for Children's Home

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Inspector	Stella Henderson
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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.

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 children and young people who have learning and physical disabilities. It is situated in a residential area and has access to a wide range of local amenities. The property is domestic in size and adapted to meet the needs of children and young people with disabilities.

Summary

The overall quality rating is good.

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

The purpose of this visit was to undertake an unannounced interim inspection and assess progress against recommendations made at the last inspection. Outcome areas for staying safe, economic well-being and organisation were inspected.

Young people at the home continue to receive good quality care from staff. Safeguarding is given the utmost priority, and the manager continues to provide good leadership to the staff team who work closely with young people and are well-attuned to their needs.

Improvements since the last inspection

At the last inspection recommendations were made in relation to providing further opportunities to make young people aware about how to complain, improving the content of transition plans and ensuring that the views of children, their parents and placing social were reflected in monitoring visits.

Evidence from this inspection demonstrates that these recommendations are now met. The manager and staff team continue to be pro-active in seeking innovative and creative ways to improve outcomes for young people at the home.

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.

Safeguarding young people continues to be effective, with all the standards within this outcome satisfied at a consistently good level of practice.

Staff are good at providing consistency and stability for young people, ensuring their right to privacy and dignity is upheld at all times. As at the last inspection bullying and 'missing from home' are not areas of concern. Practice has improved in that young people are made better aware of the complaints procedure, and behaviour management plans are tailored to meet the individual needs of young people.

The day-to-day safety of young people is also promoted through the regular updating of risk assessments and through general 'good parenting'. Young people have frequent contact with management and other professionals which are in themselves effective safeguarding measures.

The physical safety of young people is paramount, and routine checks on equipment are made, as well as regular fire evacuation procedures. Again staff have been creative in finding ways to better explain these procedures to young people in a way which meets their communication needs.

Personnel records were for new employees were checked and found to be compliant with the regulations. This ensures that young people are protected from those unsuitable to work with young people.

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 good.

The progress that young people make in making the transition to independence is now reflected in a 'stand-alone' document prepared by the home. In the absence of formal local authority transition plans, this ensures that young people are equipped, to the best of their ability, to deal with day-to-day life both within the home and outside in the community.

Organisation

The organisation is good.

The manager has made good progress in amending the content of the regulation 34 audit. This now ensures that the views of, and any concerns raised by young people, their parents and placing social workers are considered to drive forward further improvement.