

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC405285
Inspection date	10/09/2013
Inspector	Deborah White
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	24/06/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This children's home provides care and accommodation for four children who have autism and learning disabilities. The home is operated by a private provider.

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**.

The children's home was judged to be overall good at the last full inspection that was undertaken on 24 June 2013. The home has improved and made good progress. As a result children live in a positive, caring and nurturing environment that meets their needs.

The home has improved by meeting most of the recommendations from the last inspection. Children are fully supported to maintain important family contact visits and there are good induction arrangements in place for new staff.

Children are being better consulted about the running of the home; however, the regulation 34 reports do not record children's consultation feedback or how this impacts on the home's operation. Therefore this recommendation from the last inspection is repeated to ensure the home fully demonstrates children's views about their home are listened to and taken into account.

Children continue to progress and have good outcomes. They are happy, content and have strong positive bonds with the adults who care for them. Educational outcomes are very good and all children have enjoyed a range of fun and exciting

activities over the summer holidays.

There are many strengths in the monitoring of the home that clearly demonstrate the Registered Manager and provider actively strive to improve child-care practice. Regular monitoring highlights good practice and areas for improvement and written action plans clearly show improvements are made. Staff progression and development is important and the staff team are committed to their caring roles and the children living at the home.

General record keeping and children's case files have improved and show positive measureable outcomes for children. Placement and care plans are detailed and specific to the sometimes complex needs of children with autism. Children's progress and achievements are recognised and celebrated. This gives children self-confidence and promotes positive feelings of well-being.

Progress has also been made to improve how the home manages health and safety and fire safety. New improved documentation clearly identifies possible risks to children and how these will be minimised. This ensures children live in a safe environment.

There are no new requirements or recommendations arising from this inspection.

Areas for improvement

Recommendations

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

- ensure children in the home are regularly involved in contributing to the monitoring of the home and that their views are recorded and taken into account and where appropriate, acted upon. (NMS 21.1)

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*.