

Inspection report for children's home

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Inspection date	24/01/2012
Inspector	Michelle Spruce
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	05/05/2011
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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 is a children's home run by a local authority. It provides care for two young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties.

Progress

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

At the last inspection in May 2011, the overall quality rating for the service was judged as good. There were no requirements or recommendations made.

Young people enjoy living in the home and are very positive about the care and support they receive. They say they feel no different to their friends who are not in care. Staff are successful in maintaining and improving positive relationships with young people. As a result, they are happy and relaxed. Young people have improved behaviour because staff provide consistent boundaries and fair sanctions focused to each individual's need. Young people continue to feel safe because of a nurturing and supportive environment.

Since the last inspection, staff have worked hard to improve the education for young people. Young people say, 'my education improved because of additional support, this helped me to complete my exams. I would not have done it without the support.' Young people benefit from work experiences that enhance skill and knowledge and as a result say, 'my work experience was really good, I am more confident now.' This means educational experiences continue to maximise their learning potential and achievement.

Since the last inspection staff have consulted with young people about their future and the home they live in. Young people have improved the decor of their bedrooms because staff listen and value their requests. Staff confirm young people leaving the home have gone through a successful transition process because of robust care planning. As a result, young people move on in a positive and supportive manner.

The manager continues to evaluate and act on findings to improve outcomes for young people. The leadership and management of the home are effective because the manager leads by good example and is consistent in supporting and developing the staff team.