

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC415400
Inspection date	16/12/2013
Inspector	Clare Davies
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	04/06/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This children's home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to six children and young people of either gender with physical disabilities and/or learning disabilities. The children and young people's placements are made under short break arrangements and the service is delivered and managed by a county council.

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 full inspection in June 2013, the overall effectiveness rating for the service was good with one requirement and one recommendation. This short break service has addressed the actions that were raised at the previous inspection and has made good progress.

The service shows a significant improvement in the administration and recording of medication. Revised procedures are known and understood by staff with regular discussions at team meetings of any changes in medication for children and young people. This ensures that all staff are aware of the most up to date medical needs of each child. The manager has implemented regular audits of the medication to ensure good practice and identify any errors promptly.

Incidents and accidents are suitably recorded to provide an accurate account of events involving children and young people. Individual behaviour management plans are effective as indicated by the low number of physical interventions and sanctions. This service ensures that there are plenty of activities to engage children and young

people with, often providing a distraction for any challenging behaviour to surface.

Personalised care plans are up to date with good evidence of review. The manager and senior staff monitor the quality of the plans through supervision and file audits. This level of monitoring contributes to care plans being accurate and up to date to ensure consistency for children and young people. Each child and young person has a target to work towards during their stay. Progress towards meeting the targets is captured on every visit and summarised in a monthly report. This ensures that the information on progress and achievement is shared with parents and social workers. The manager monitors target setting to ensure it is achievable and measurable with regular review.

Since the last inspection the staff members have adopted the role of 'champion' in delegated areas. Staff have welcomed these areas of responsibility and report how they are motivated in their own professional development as well as contributing to the development of the service. Staff are proud to show areas of work that they have undertaken to enhance the quality of the short break experience for children and young people. For example, an increased range of activities in the community, photographs of children and young people participating in activities not only on display in the home but recorded in a memory book and, participation in children and young people's meetings.

Children and young people are encouraged and supported to make choices throughout their short break stay. This occurs individually and formally as a group during meetings. Excellent child friendly records are made of these meetings, including photographs and picture symbols. This ensures that the record is accessible and meaningful to the children and young people who use this service. No requirements or recommendations were identified during this inspection.

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*.