

## Inspection report for children's home

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	SC033152
<b>Inspection date</b>	19/01/2012
<b>Inspector</b>	Lynne Busby
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Interim
<b>Provision subtype</b>	Children's home

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<b>Date of last inspection</b>	21/06/2011
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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

<b>Good progress</b>	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.
<b>Satisfactory progress</b>	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.
<b>Inadequate progress</b>	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 service is a children's home run by a local authority. The home is registered to provide a service for up to six children, male or female, who have a learning disability and may also have a physical disability.

The home offers a short-term respite service only; no one is accommodated on a long-term basis and one of the six places is used only for emergency respite. The home sometimes offers occasional day care, either planned or in emergencies.

### Progress

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

This interim inspection has focused on the progress made by the home since their last full inspection in June 2011, in which they were judged to be outstanding. At the last inspection one requirement was made with regard to the recording of the duration of restraints. These are now consistently recorded, providing an accountable system. Therefore, good progress has been made.

The manager and staff are committed to developing the service and have implemented a number of improvements. Young people benefit from 'all about me' plans which have been developed and provide individualised information. This information is shared with young people and their parents and is updated regularly. It is personalised and includes information on the diverse needs of young people.

A continued strength is the excellent liaison between health, education and the home. Parents say this offers consistency and ensures good communication. Parents are positive about the care and say staff value and respect their children and have seen them grow in confidence. Parents say children are able to spend time with friends, 'they think of it as a sleep over and really enjoy their visits.' Young people benefit from excellent support from staff during their visits. This has helped them develop both socially and emotionally by providing a range of activities in which they can participate.

Young people's views and wishes are taken into account in relation to decisions about their daily life in the home and staff help them explore choices, such as foods and activities. There are regular children's meetings and staff are aware of individual communication styles to ensure opportunities to contribute are maximised.

The manager conducts monthly monitoring which includes the views of parents and young people. The monthly reports are sent to the responsible individual who collates these into an annual report. However, these are not forwarded to Ofsted, in line with the regulation.

## 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
34 (2001)	ensure a copy of the monitoring report prepared under Schedule 6 is sent to the HMCI within 28 days of completion. (Children's Act 1989, Volume 5, statutory guidance, para. 3.14)	24/02/2012

### Recommendations

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