

Inspection report for children's home

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	SC047894
<b>Inspection date</b>	19/01/2012
<b>Inspector</b>	Deirdra Keating
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Interim
<b>Provision subtype</b>	Children's home

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<b>Date of last inspection</b>	12/09/2011
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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

The service provides care and accommodation for up to four young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties. It is privately owned alongside two other services and run on therapeutic principles. One of the other services provides semi-independent facilities for young people preparing to leave care. The service houses a specific facility of education in an independent school linked to the house.

### Progress

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

This is an outstanding service which is judged to be making good progress following this inspection. The home has addressed the previous recommendation to improve the décor of the home and appearance of the front garden. There is one recommendation raised as a result of this inspection.

At this inspection, concerns were discussed in regards to a Compliance Investigation and Enforcement (CIE) case that had been raised with Ofsted on the 6 January 2012. Ofsted asked the provider to investigate. This has been fully investigated by the Registered Manager and a robust action plan has been implemented. These concerns are closed and require no further action.

Young people continue to achieve outstanding outcomes in many areas of their lives, such as attending school, structured routines and reduction of patterns of unsafe behaviours. Young people spoken to during the inspection report that, while relationships with staff are good, they find the boundaries and constraints imposed difficult and would prefer more freedom. However, given the specific vulnerabilities of the young people placed at the service these comprehensive safeguards are required in order to protect young people and safeguard their welfare.

The service shows good capacity to improve. Improvements have been made to the interior of the house which has been painted throughout and soft furnishings have been replaced resulting in a fresh and lighter home for young people. Young people have helped with the decoration and choice of cushions and curtains for the house. This gives young people a sense of pride and ownership in their environment and helps them understand that their efforts and personal tastes are valued. However, improvements to the design of the front garden have been unsuccessful. This has resulted in a muddy and unsightly area on arrival at the service. The Registered Manager has taken action to address this.

The service continues to review the progress of each young person and has developed new monitoring systems to improve this. Internal reviews that set personal goals for each young person have been recently introduced providing a

more objective view of how the service responds to the diversity of young people's changing needs. This proactive and forward-thinking approach demonstrates their commitment to raising the quality of care provided to young people.

## **Areas for improvement**

### **Recommendations**

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

- ensure that the design of the garden and maintenance of the front of the property are improved. (NMS 10)