

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC423453
Inspection date	07/03/2012
Inspector	Linda Leeder
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	19/12/2011
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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

The home is registered to accommodate three boys. Education is provided through the home's independent school and local education authority provision, when possible.

Progress

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

At the last inspection in December 2011, the overall quality rating for the service was judged as good, with two recommendations made. Good progress has been made since the last inspection and all the recommendations have been met.

At the last inspection it was recommended that the registered person's ensure the emergency escape plans consider whether young people require individual emergency evacuation plans, specifically at night. The registered person's have ensured individual fire safety plans for each young person in the home. They are developing innovative and comprehensive risk assessments that examine the needs of young people, including any disability or medical condition that they may have. For example there are strategies in place to support young people, who have medication that can make them drowsier at night, evacuate the building in an emergency. Use has been made of publications that increase the awareness of disability, medical conditions and hazards within the home and how risks can be managed more effectively to promote fire safety. Fire safety has become part of the programme of individual sessions with young people. Staff at the home have been proactive in using different formats and techniques to work with the young people to devise, understand and practice their escape plan to ensure that young people are safe.

It was recommended at the last inspection that the registered person's review the use of sanctions and ensure that young people are encouraged to have their views recorded and sign the records. There is now a positive regime of sanctions and rewards within the home. Sanctions are rarely used, however there is evidence that young people are asked to comment and sign sanction records. The Registered Manager has provided excellent guidance and audit of sanctions and reward within the home. Young people report that staff are good at giving rewards for positive behaviour and this discourages negative behaviour. Staff at the home say that they discuss behaviour with young people and use example and reward to reduce the sanction of young people for any negative behaviour. This has changed the behaviour management strategy within the home and has improved the outcomes for young people.

Young people report that they are happy and feel safe in the home, good interaction

was observed between staff and young people and the home has effective monitoring systems that improve outcomes for young people.