

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC428599
Inspection date	28/03/2012
Inspector	Valerie Shephard
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	04/01/2012
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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 run by a privately owned company and is registered for up to four children or young people who have a learning disability.

Progress

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

The home has not provided accommodation to young people since its registration on 23 June 2011. This inspection focuses on whether the children's home meets its statutory requirements in order to maintain its registration and is ready to accept any placements.

A requirement for improvement made at the last inspection in relation to Regulation 33 monitoring visits has not been met. The home does not have in place a system for monitoring the running of the home and quality of care; and as a result has not supplied Ofsted with the necessary information about the conduct of the home.

The Statement of Purpose is up to date and all procedures and policies are in place with a plan to review these prior to the admission of any young people.

Following a recent recruitment process, sufficient staff are now available to work in the home when young people are admitted. However there is no evidence that appropriate selection procedures have been followed in relation to checking references and qualifications of new staff. This means that the recruitment processes are not robust enough to ensure only suitable people are employed to work with children at the home.

The furnishings within the home meet a basic standard and the décor is in good order. Any young person admitted will have the opportunity to personalise their own room. The fire doors are not working correctly and the staircase may pose a risk to young people.

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
33 (2001)	ensure that the home shall be visited in accordance with Regulation 33 by one of the directors or other persons responsible for the management of the organisation, to inspect the premises of the children's home and to supply a copy of the report to the HMCI (Regulation 33 (2)(b) (4)(b) (5)(a))	30/04/2012
34 (2001)	establish and maintain a system for monitoring the matters set out in Schedule 6 and supply to the HMCI a report in respect of any review conducted (Regulation 34 (1)(a) & (2))	30/04/2012
26 (2001)	ensure full and satisfactory information in respect of newly appointed staff has been obtained; particularly in relation to the checking of references and qualifications (Regulation 26 (6)(a)(b))	30/04/2012
32 (2001)	provide, after consultation with the fire and rescue authority, adequate means of escape (Regulation 32 (1)(b))	30/04/2012
31 (2001)	ensure that all parts of the children's home used by the children are safe; particularly in relation to the staircase. (Regulation 31(2))	30/04/2012

Recommendations

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