

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC394025
Inspection date	27/02/2012
Inspector	Paul Taylor
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	01/11/2011
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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 children's home can accommodate up to 26 young people in four separate houses based on the same site. The home caters for young people between the ages of seven and 17 years with a variety of disabilities, primarily epilepsy and learning difficulties. The home is operated by a registered charity.

Progress

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

At the last inspection carried out in November 2011 the home was judged to be good. Two recommendations made at the last inspection have been met, these were in relation to ensuring that the medication administration system was understood by all members of staff and ensuring that all young people have the same access to all forms of electronic communication.

All members of staff who administer medication understand the system and have undertaken training. Additionally, members of staff undertake regular auditing of medication in stock to ensure that there have been no medication errors. The system is robust and records of medication administered are accurate.

Following a work program by the organisation's information technology department, young people in all of the houses now have access to webcams and instant messaging.

Improvements made since the last inspection have included the promotion, successfully in nurturing and enabling some young people to develop their verbal communication skills as well as introducing a system to continuously monitor the activities in which the young people partake. This ensures that they continue to be relevant and of interest. The organisation continues to offer a varied and regular training program and this in turn enables staff to monitor and evaluate their practice with a view to improving outcomes for the young people.