

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC059203
Inspection date	11/02/2013
Inspector	Stephen Graham
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	23/07/2012
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This children's home provides short breaks for six children who have a learning disability. The home is operated by the local authority.

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.

Progress

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

The home is currently judged as good. Since the last inspection of the home in July 2012, the manager and staff team have worked effectively to further improve the service. The one action set at that visit along with the two recommendations made, have been implemented. There are no new actions or recommendations arising from this visit.

To help ensure that the service provided to children and their families is monitored effectively, independent visits to the home are completed on behalf of the registered provider. The arrangements for these visits have been improved to ensure that they are completed regularly and report clearly on all of the matters required.

Young people who visit this service receive their own summary guide to the home. Since the last inspection, the guide has been further improved and now includes all of the information recommended, for example, details of how a child can contact their own Independent Reviewing Officer, or the Children's Rights Director, so improving their ability to do so should they wish to.

The arrangements to provide recommended training to the staff team have been

further reviewed. Consequently, nearly all of the staff team now hold a level 3 qualification, or are working toward this. This means that the quality of care provided by the home to young people is better supported by appropriate staff training.

The manager at the home uses a range of individual discussions, group meetings and surveys to consult with young people, their parents, carers and placing social workers. These arrangements work very effectively and help ensure that the wishes and feelings of young people and those involved in their care are taken into consideration. The manager maintains good records of the views they receive. These records help to demonstrate how these views have been incorporated, where possible, into their plans to further improve the service.

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*.