

## Inspection report for children's home

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	SC394025
<b>Inspection date</b>	20/03/2013
<b>Inspector</b>	Keith Riley
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Interim
<b>Provision subtype</b>	Children's home

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<b>Date of last inspection</b>	27/09/2012
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## Service information

### Brief description of the service

The home can accommodate up to 26 children in four separate houses based on the same site. The home caters for children with a variety of disabilities, primarily epilepsy and learning difficulties. The home is operated by a registered charity.

### 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.

## Progress

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

At the last inspection in September 2012 the home was judged as good for overall effectiveness. Five recommendations were made and these are met in full.

Minor repairs, identified at the previous inspection, have been completed to a high standard. Children live in a comfortable and homely environment that is safe, well maintained and decorated. The Registered Manager has systems in place to monitor the quality and adequacy of record keeping. This includes completing monitoring reports as required by regulation and these are sent to Ofsted at the frequency recommended in statutory guidance.

There has been an extensive review of staff training. Training is far more accessible to staff, such as waking night staff, making use of digital technology. There is a comprehensive on-going personal development programme in place to identify the training needs of staff. This has a clear focus on the needs of the children in their care. For example, a training programme has been put in place for staff to develop an understanding of autism. This means that staff are well trained and up to date on all practice issues to provide the best possible care and support for the children in

the home.

Since the last inspection key staff have been trained to deliver the home's approved behaviour management training in-house. This means that trainers are not only readily available to provide generic training but also provide specific guidance to meet the unique needs of individual children in particular circumstances. Children benefit from strategies to de-escalate challenging behaviours and there is minimal physical intervention. Any physical intervention is of very low level and short duration. The number of interventions is significantly lower since the last inspection. Children live in a calm environment and situations do not escalate. Any incidents are analysed by the multidisciplinary team, with possible triggers identified. Positive correction action is taken such as updates to risk assessments or behaviour management plans.

Outcomes for children are excellent. Their life experiences and confidence are enriched in a caring and nurturing environment at a pace commensurate with their cognitive ability. Children benefit from highly individualised support which helps them develop their life and social skills. They make exceptional progress, for example in self-care, eating or communication skills. Since the last inspection meticulous attention has been given to develop communication; for example, individual, detailed symbol books or voice output communication aids are specifically tailored to the individual child. This means that children are able to have a voice in the home and make their needs and wants known, regardless of the level of the communication challenges that they face. Children say they are making good progress and 'it's going ok'.

There is an excellent approach to health. Children have their health care needs promoted to an excellent standard. They have ready access to health professionals on site. This means that expert advice and guidance are readily available. There are strong links with other external health professionals if necessary. There are positive outcomes. Children with physical difficulties are able to increase their mobility, such as being able to access the trampoline independently. The Registered Manager ensures that all specialist equipment is available to enable children to live as normal a life as possible. Extensive effort is made to achieve this and safeguard children, such as the design and purchase of specialist wheelchairs unique to an individual child's needs.

One final improvement since the last inspection is the successful recruitment of staff. Children benefit from a stable and consistent staff team who bring a wealth of experience to this setting.

No requirements or recommendations are made as a result of this inspection.

## 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*.