

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC035500
Inspection date	17/09/2013
Inspector	Kevin Whatley / Jim Palmer
Type of inspection	Full
Provision subtype	Secure Unit

Date of last inspection	20/02/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

The unit is registered as a secure children's home, operated by the local authority and is approved by the Secretary of State to provide secure care and accommodation. Education is provided on site in dedicated facilities. The unit provides secure accommodation for up to 24 young people.

The inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: a service of exceptional quality that significantly exceeds minimum requirements

Good: a service of high quality that exceeds minimum requirements

Adequate: a service that only meets minimum requirements

Inadequate: a service that does not meet minimum requirements

Overall effectiveness

The overall effectiveness is judged to be **good**.

This was an unannounced, full inspection of both the residential and education provision of the unit.

Young people receive an excellent quality of care. Young people note that they are being helped to address their issues and that they are looked after well. They benefit considerably from the quality of relationships they share with staff which assists them to make consistently good, and in a number of cases, outstanding progress. This is most telling given their starting points on admission.

Care planning is a strength of the unit and ensures the individual needs of young people are assessed, planned for and reviewed; this includes robust planning for release and resettlement.

Young people say they feel safe at the unit. Robust and individualised intervention programmes and strategies are followed in practice, thus ensuring their safety and wellbeing.

The provision of education is good. The individual education needs of young people are well met within an ethos where learning is seen as important. As a result attendance rates are high with young people making good, and in a number of instances, excellent progress.

An excellent managerial approach ensures the home is run effectively and efficiently.

The Registered Manager is ably assisted by a strong and focused senior management team, who together, aspire to provide young people with consistently high quality care and security. Comprehensive and objective monitoring procedures ensure standards of care are maintained and improved upon.

The one requirement made at the last inspection has been met. Three recommendations are made as a result of this inspection. Two of these relate to improving vocational and careers opportunities within the education department; the third concerns the need for staff comply with the unit's own rules. None of these shortfalls posed a risk of harm to the wellbeing of young people.

Areas for improvement

Recommendations

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

- ensure management of the secure unit is effective in, defines clear accountabilities for, and regularly and frequently monitors the unit's care, safety and security; in particular that staff comply with the policies and procedures of the unit, notably not accepting prohibited items brought in to the unit by visitors (NMS 23.18)
- ensure young people are provided with appropriate education while in the home; in particular make better use of mobility to provide more opportunities for young people to experience work experience linked to vocational training taking place within the school (NMS 23.11)
- ensure young people are provided with appropriate education while in the home; in particular improve and extend the availability of careers information for young people (NMS 23.11)

Outcomes for children and young people

Outcomes for young people are **good**.

Young people receive extremely good levels of care, support and guidance and make good progress as a result; outcomes for some young people are excellent. Individualised support helps young people to address their most negative behaviours and attitudes, develop their life and social skills and gain confidence. Relationships between staff and young people are meaningful and allows them the opportunity to address their own personal, and often, complex issues in a supported and sensitive manner. As a result young people develop a greater understanding of themselves, gain increased awareness of the impact and consequences of their behaviour and subsequently improve their feelings of self-esteem and self worth. Young people spoke positively about their relationships with staff and the help they receive. Comments included, 'we get looked after well...I really like my key-worker and I can talk to them easily'.

Young people have their health care needs met to a high standard. The health care and therapy teams combine extremely well to provide a holistic approach to addressing the individual needs of each young person. This allows for any physical, medical or psychological issues to be fully considered from the point of admission with focused strategies enabling young people to receive the services they require.

Young people benefit from a culture where the importance of learning is well established. Staff across the unit work closely together to provide a cohesive approach to meeting the educational and learning needs of young people. This ensures young people make good progress in developing and improving their educational and vocational skills; in a number of instances such progress is excellent given their starting points.

Young people say they are listened to and that they can express their views easily. A large number of avenues are available for young people to have their opinions heard. This includes regular visits made to the unit by independent advocacy services. Established forums provide excellent opportunities for young people to learn listening and negotiation skills which, in turn, enhances their abilities to appreciate the wider considerations of life at the unit and the local community. Responses to requests or ideas are timely and confirm that the views of young people are taken seriously and where appropriate are acted upon.

Young people are enabled to maintain and re-establish appropriate contact with family members and those people who are important to them. Each young person has a telephone in their room which allows them excellent and ready access to the key people in their lives. Where there is any restriction on contact this is clearly known, planned for and complied with. Young people benefit considerably from visits with staff providing sensitive support throughout the process to ensure any feelings brought about by such contact is appreciated and discussed. More recently, and where appropriate, a number of contact visits have taken place in the newly developed life skills lodge. This has allowed a higher level of privacy and has improved the quality of the contact itself.

Young people are well assisted to prepare for life outside of the unit and have their individual wishes fully considered. Resettlement is a core aspect of each young person's placement with consideration given to their individual needs and circumstances from the point of admission. A programme of independent life skills training allows young people opportunities to gain valuable insight and experience of their own abilities and needs. The recently opened life skills lodge offers an excellent on site resource for practical skills, including cooking and laundry, to be gained on a one to one basis. It is hoped this resource will also be used for young people, meeting a strict criteria, to spend overnights as part of agreed transition plans prior to their release; protocols for this to take place have been agreed by Ofsted. Similarly the continued development of the vocational skills programme provides young people with opportunities to gain experience and qualifications in a number of work related subjects, including motor mechanics and building. Young people also work in the unit's kitchens and complete practical and written tasks leading to

nationally recognised industry awards. A number of young people on mobility have attended work based placements in the local community such as a farm; young people are also due to start at a new community placement within the leisure and fitness industry. As a result young people gain a sense of achievement, become more employable and as a result improve their life chances.

Staff strive to establish pathway plans for young people, notably those who do not have strong family or community links in their home areas. This includes working alongside the relevant local authorities and when necessary reminding them of their statutory duties; on occasion the unit appropriately utilises their links with independent advocacy services to ensure the views of young people are fully represented. Staff are committed to supporting transitions and attend community based resettlement meetings following the young person's release. Feedback is sought from young people and others post release so as to build a picture of how successfully they integrated back into society. Such a rigorous approach improves the chances of successful transitions and places the needs of young people first.

Quality of care

The quality of the care is **outstanding**.

Young people share positive and meaningful relationships with staff which enables them to improve their social, behavioural and educational skills; in a number of instances progress is excellent. The culture of the unit and obvious commitment shown by the management and staff team ensures there is a continual focus on meeting individual needs. Staff clearly understand the specific needs of young people and skilfully assist them to take stock of their situations, learn better coping mechanisms and use their time at the unit constructively. Since the last inspection key-working has been developed from a generic model to a more specialised team of staff. Young people and staff speak most positively about this new way of working and the improvements this has brought about, notably in terms of the increased regularity and quality of one to one sessions. Feedback from professionals working with young people praised the efforts of staff and the overall work of the unit. For example one comment noted, 'the staff were exceptional in explaining to the young person why they were there and supporting their particular needs'.

Staff utilise the strength of relationships with young people to encourage and expect appropriate levels of behaviour. Young people said the rules are, 'fair' with evidence throughout the inspection of staff maintaining suitable boundaries when misbehaviour was exhibited. For the most part behaviour was experienced to be extremely good. Young people were polite and courteous with inspectors and displayed considerable respect and maturity. This is indicative of the progress young people are making in their social and personal development which in turn increases their confidence and self esteem.

Young people say they feel listened to and have their views, opinions and wishes incorporated into the day-to-day running of the unit. A number of pathways are available which allows young people an opportunity to comment on the standards of

care they receive and to make requests. These include weekly one to one key-working sessions and unit rep meetings. Unit reps meet with the Registered Manager and bring along ideas from their peers. Recent outcomes from these meetings have included the purchasing of new outdoor furniture, outdoor clothes drying equipment and changes to the menu. Young people noted that staff are around day and night who they can talk to. Interactions between staff and young people was respectful and relaxed with communication being open.

A suitable complaints procedure is in place which is followed in practice. Young people say they know how to make a complaint and that their concerns are addressed. The complaints procedure is easy to use, and when complaints are made they are taken seriously, dealt with swiftly, and appropriately recorded with clear outcomes being given for the decisions made.

The promotion of advocacy services is given the highest priority in the unit. Young people can make free phone calls to a number of independent services from the privacy of their own rooms including direct helpline agencies. This coupled with weekly visits to the unit by members of an independent advocacy service, culminates in an environment where young people clearly have a voice.

Care planning is a strength of the service with all processes reflecting the individual and changing needs of young people. Care plans are holistic in nature and take into account each young person's cultural background and personal identity. All plans are compiled using available information such as from placing authorities and Youth Offending Teams. Care plans provide staff with an excellent guide as to how best meet the needs of the young person which are followed in practice. Expert advice is gained from the unit's therapy and health care teams with care plans being comprehensive and focused. Reviews of care occur extremely regularly with reports providing a detailed overview of the progress of young people against the aims of their care or sentence plan. Young people are enabled to participate fully in reviews and are supported to express their views meaningfully.

The health care needs of young people are met in an excellent fashion with their emotional well-being addressed with the utmost importance. Every young person admitted to the unit undergoes a medical and psychological screening assessment. This helps to identify any issues as soon as possible and allows for young people to receive swift and individualised intervention. Health care plans provide a clear overview of each young person's physical, medical and psychological needs and how these will be met.

The emotional well-being of each young person is a cornerstone of practice with the development of self-esteem and confidence incorporated into all areas of care provision. Excellent joint working arrangements, coupled with very regular expert psychological input, ensures that young people who require more targeted and specialised interventions have these provided. This is particularly important for young people who may wish to harm themselves who can receive direct counselling from on site professionals. Similarly staff are provided with expert support and guidance in meeting such concerning behaviours leading to young people reducing the occasions

they act in such a manner through learning improved coping mechanisms.

Further improvements have been made with the appointment of a full time qualified nurse. As a result young people benefit from easy access to medical support and advice. The appointment has seen an improved emphasis on the promotion of healthy lifestyles. For instance linking with local government initiatives to encourage young people to be more aware of their diet, weight and exercise. Young people have engaged positively with such approaches which incorporate tutorial and exercise classes. Improved medication storage and administration processes ensure excellent standards of safety and accuracy are maintained.

Young people have their cultural and diverse needs addressed with a focus on meeting individual needs. Where English is not the young persons first language interpreter services are provided. This has included ensuring young people are given the young persons guide and group work session materials in their native tongue. Young people are provided with suitable opportunities to appreciate their individual cultures. A faith room is available which allows young people a quiet space to use for contemplation or worship. The room is suitably resourced with prayer mats and a variety of religious texts and paraphernalia. Young people are further supported to follow their chosen religion or faith and to respect their particular festivals. For example the daily menu always contains halal produce as an option.

The unit provides a good standard of accommodation which is secure and appropriately maintained. Living areas are suitably decorated with pictures and art work, completed by young people, being displayed in hallways and lounges. Young people can personalise their rooms, unless risk assessments confirm otherwise, and do so with posters and photographs. The unit's outdoor spaces provides young people with good facilities to play sport such as football and tennis. A small area is set aside for the unit's chickens with plans in place to introduce more small breed animals in the coming months.

Safeguarding children and young people

The service is **good** at keeping children and young people safe and feeling safe.

The unit are good at keeping young people safe and secure. Young people say they feel safe with robust procedures and practices ensuring their wellbeing. A vast majority of young people benefit from living in a secure environment where many of their high risk lifestyles are controlled and they gain a sense of safety and security. Young people are supported by staff in carrying out direct work in addressing their offending behaviour and, often, complex emotional issues. They benefit from this security and most say that they develop better strategies for managing conflicts and are now able to resolve them in more positive ways.

A rigorous approach to the employment of staff and volunteers ensures only adults who are deemed appropriate, work at the unit. All safeguarding checks are completed thoroughly with multiple pre-employment interviews comprehensively assessing suitability.

Robust safeguarding protocols are in place which are followed in practice. The Registered Manager is a member of the Local Safeguarding Children's Board which ensures the unit is kept fully up to date with child protection strategies and procedures. All staff receive regular child protection training and display a sound understanding of key safeguarding issues. When concerns arise they are addressed appropriately and in a timely way, these include disclosures of a historical nature made by young people.

The security of the unit is given the utmost importance with sophisticated systems in place to ensure this is maintained. A computer management system monitors the use of keys and ensures none can be taken off site in error. The appropriate, yet extensive use of CCTV and air locks further secures the environment from unwanted intrusion or misuse.

The use of searches is appropriate and in general ensures the bringing in of restricted items is kept to a minimum, however one shortfall was identified during the inspection. Young people are not subjected to unnecessary searches with a vast majority of checks being carried out by staff 'pat down' or the use of a 'wand'. Protocols for the use of full body searches are explicit and can only be used when authorised by a member of the senior management team; these are rarely used. Information as you enter the unit informs visitors on what items can and cannot be taken in. However during the inspection confectionery was taken into the unit by a regular visitor. The management team were made aware of this and acknowledged this was against the rules of the unit. This shortfall did not pose a significant risk to the welfare of young people.

The unit have appropriate protocols in place should a young person go missing. These include agreed procedures with the local police. No young person has gone missing either from the unit, or when out on activities. This evidences the level of rigour with which the unit upholds in it's duty to keep young people safe and secure.

There are strong systems in place to reduce the incidence of bullying with staff very mindful of the group dynamics that exist. Young people develop a sense of safety that comes from the knowledge that staff are vigilant about any potential risks. All incidences of bullying are recorded in bullying logs which are monitored by managers and members of the anti-bullying team. Members of this team have their photos and names prominently displayed in each unit, thus ensuring young people know who to contact each day. Anti-bullying strategies are linked to behaviour management plans and include a restorative approach to resolving incidents. This has led to young people being able to meet together to find appropriate resolutions to their differences. No young person raised significant concerns that bullying was endemic in the unit.

Positive behaviour is encouraged and promoted with young people making good progress in reducing their challenging and risk taking behaviours. Acceptable behaviour is expected and rewarded with incentive programmes linked to positive behaviour, effort and attitude throughout the day. Young people have their

challenging and risk taking behaviours comprehensively assessed at the point of admission and regularly reviewed thereafter. Improvements have been made in the level of detail included in each assessment which now offers a significant Behaviour management plans are compiled which provide an individualised approach to meeting specific areas of concern including issues of anger, violence, offending or self-harm. The child psychologist assists the whole staff team in developing and reviewing intervention strategies with staff relationships, communication and each young person's motivation fully considered in a holistic sense. Such an approach has seen a number of young people significantly reduce their self harming and violent episodes.

Young people are fully supported to engage in one to one and group work programmes aimed at reducing their negative thoughts and behaviours. Group work sessions take place daily and focus on relevant themes including violence, anger management, relationships and offending behaviour. One young person stated that, 'I have been helped to think about why I do what I do when I am angry...this has really helped me to calm down much more'. Feedback from a youth offending team worker when describing interventions to address pro-offending attitudes noted, 'there was clear work done on this, especially with respect to impulsive behaviour and anger management and as a result a clear improvement in attitude was noticeable on release'.

All staff are trained in restraint and the use of single separation with physical intervention only used when necessary. The high levels of communication and dialogue between staff and young people clearly encourages reflection and assists in avoiding unnecessary conflict. A large number of restraints used since the last inspection have been implemented to ensure young people do not cause injury to themselves. Following incidents young people benefit from de-brief sessions, often with a member of the therapy team. This subsequently ensures young people can express their views on the use of the restraint in question and reflect on the situation. Where incidents have included the use of single separation the reasons for such intervention is clear and appropriate. Incidents are monitored closely with the Local Area Designated Officer reviewing each episode alongside the senior management team. This includes reviewing CCTV footage and written records of the matter in question. Records confirm that managers review such incidents swiftly and assess the intervention strategy used. This excellent approach ensures restraints are assessed in detail by those responsible for keeping young people safe.

The use of sanctions is appropriate, with the unit's rules being firm but appropriate. When sanctions are implemented they are fair and in line with agreed protocols. Wherever possible restorative ways are sought to address unacceptable behaviour and to seek resolution. For example, young people have been enabled to meet face to face to discuss their differences following an altercation. These sessions are closely facilitated by staff and often lead to positive outcomes and a more settled communal living environment. Experienced staff noted that the past six months has seen the unit, 'be the most settled it has been in the past two years'.

An appropriate approach ensures the health and safety of young people and staff is

suitably considered. Regular checks are completed on the whole environment, with expert assessments completed on an annual basis. Fire safety is taken most seriously with drills and tests completed routinely, while all other appliances are checked and serviced as required.

Leadership and management

The leadership and management of the children's home are **outstanding**.

Young people and staff alike benefit from living and working in a home that is run efficiently and effectively. The Registered Manager displays a wealth of knowledge and skills and expects appropriately high levels of care from his staff. This approach coupled with the skills of the senior management team provides the unit with strong and purposeful leadership. The culture of the unit is young person centred with all aspects of care provision aimed at helping young people to engage with staff, build positive relationships, address their own issues and move forward in their lives.

The Youth Justice Board confirmed that the service is meeting all agreed targets and standards. Placing authorities comment most positively on the overall running of the home and the significant progress made by young people.

The one requirement from the previous inspection has been met with risk assessments now comprising an enhanced format that is implemented consistently. Since the last inspection improvements have been made in a number of areas including key-working, life skills and health care. The Registered Manager has a key role in national forums. This enables the unit to keep up to date with practice developments within the secure estate.

Information regarding the home and the services it offers is comprehensive with care practices clearly meeting the aims and objectives of the home as outlined in the Statement of Purpose. A young person's guide provides all relevant information in an easy to understand and modern format; a similarly detailed guide is available for parents and carers.

Comprehensive monitoring procedures ensure that standards of care practice are continually and objectively assessed, consolidated and improved upon. Monthly management reports are completed on all areas of care provision, while six monthly Regulation 34 reports are compiled which provide a retrospective assessment. The findings of such reports enable the management team to confirm the strengths of service provision and evaluate areas where more emphasis may be required to improve outcomes further. Regulation 33 reports are completed monthly, following inspection visits by a member of the county council. These provide an objective review of care, which include the views of young people. In addition annual quality assurance audits are undertaken which include a development plan for the forthcoming year. Such plans incorporate targets across the unit and confirm the settings aspirations and strategies for future development. This has been most apparent in the recent opening of the excellent life skills lodge.

Staff display a commitment to providing young people with appropriately high standards of care, support and guidance. An appropriate number of staff are available day and night to ensure young people are safe, secure and continue to make good progress. Improvements in key-working and group work have further increased the focus on providing young people with individualised packages of care which staff have taken on with vigour. Expert advice is readily available from the on site therapy team, which complements team and child focused meetings and reviews. The staff team are fully supported to undertake their tasks and have formal supervision regularly. Comments such as, 'great team to work in...colleagues are so supportive...always someone to ask for advice', were indicative of how staff felt about working at the unit.

Training and induction programmes provide staff with excellent opportunities to learn and develop their skills. Staff receive all the necessary compulsory training on a regular basis, such as child protection and the use of physical intervention with service specific issues being catered for including self harm and mental health. Aside from obtaining the required care awards a number of staff are being supported to undertake the higher level 5 qualification. Staff stated that such an approach enables them to improve their professional development and to 'keep in touch' with up to date themes within the secure estate.

Records are maintained to a high standard and clearly evidence the progress and development made by young people. Young people are encouraged to read much of what is written about them and to add their comments and views.

Outcomes in education and related learning activities

The outcomes in education and related learning activities are **good**.

Initial assessment of young people to identify their individual need in developing English and maths is timely and takes place within a week of arrival at the centre. Re-assessment takes place at 12 weeks, 6 and 12 months to monitor improvement. Where previous educational assessments have taken place good efforts are made to locate assessments and the resulting information is used well in planning learning.

Outcomes for young people overall are good. Most young people achieve their learning goals. Progress that young people make from their starting point and given the length of stay at the unit is excellent. In most cases progress is mapped to the national curriculum sub-levels with young people showing a clear improvement prior to release. The number of young people achieving accredited qualification was mostly high and the number of more meaningful qualifications has improved since the previous inspection and continues to improve. Young people develop their practical skills well quickly gaining confidence in their work. Standards of work were generally good.

Teaching, learning and assessment overall are good. Teachers are well qualified, enthusiastic and work hard to engage with learners many of whom have challenging behaviour. In the majority of classes, teachers use a good variety of teaching

methods to interest and motivate learners. They question and challenge learners and make good use of their experience to give realistic examples to illustrate their teaching. Some teachers' make good use of smart boards and have some innovative resources to support their lessons. In the poorer classes, teachers fail to engage learners and do not deal with challenging unacceptable behaviour sufficiently well. In a minority of cases teaching is not sufficiently well planned to cope with the mixed ability or interests of the learners.

Individual support for young people is very good with particularly well planned sessions to support English and maths. Young people who have a statement of special educational needs or have complex barriers to learning identified by the centre receive excellent individual support. Young people receiving such support make exceptionally good progress.

Most learners are interested and engage well with the learning activities. They gain in self-confidence as well as learning new skills and knowledge. However some learners find it difficult to concentrate and their standard of work declines as does their general behaviour. Assessment is generally good with teachers giving good feedback to learners within the lessons. Written assignments are marked with detailed feedback for the learner.

The centre has access to an external education psychologist who with a psychologist on site help identify strategies to engage young people who have multiple and complex barriers to learning. Target setting for young people takes place daily with their individual tutors; objectives are negotiated both for the qualification and personal development. Plans are in place to introduce a young people's diary which will be used to record targets more clearly for young people and enable them to more fully understand the progress they are making.

The curriculum available to young people is good in meeting their needs. The curriculum offer includes Maths, English, Science, ICT, Art, DT, PE, Food Technology, Humanities and Music Technology. A good focus is placed on improving and developing English and mathematics. The availability of ICT has improved since the last inspection. Personal, social and emotional development is integrated well within the subject areas. Themed school weeks enable young people to develop their understanding in a variety of subjects such as substance misuse, equality and diversity, parenting, healthy eating, gang culture, sports, cyber bullying and animal care.

Vocational training is available in motor vehicle maintenance, building, animal care and gardens and hair and beauty. Accommodation for vocational training is mainly good however; the hairdressing salon imagery could be improved to reflect the industry better. The motor vehicle workshop is much improved since the last inspection with improved equipment and a more spacious workshop plus a qualified mechanic enabling more industry based accredited qualifications being available. However the accommodation for construction provision needs to continue to improve further. Workshops adopt safe working practices. Opportunities for young people to experience work experience within the unit, particularly in the kitchen, are good.

Enrichment activities provided good opportunities for young people to engage in a range of leisure activities that they enjoy and extended their knowledge and understanding helping develop their personal development. Participation in enrichment activities is high with around 93% of young people engaging at some point throughout the year. Activities are well designed to enable young people to develop good communication, team building and personal skills. Good opportunities are available for young people to engage with a wide variety of different sporting activities such as football, table tennis, cricket, circuit training, tag rugby, badminton, basketball, include golf, volleyball and cycling. Football coach from an external local professional team is available. Throughout the year activities are available in art and craft helping young people develop skills in woodwork, knitting, sewing, jewellery making, model making, photography, hair and makeup, nail art and cake decoration. Young people enjoy these activities and build confidence and improved self-esteem. Young people have opportunities as part of their enrichment programme to develop further skills in hairdressing and beauty and motor maintenance at evenings and weekends.

Career advice for young people is available mainly from the resettlement co-ordinator as part of the centres preparing young people for resettlement however, the more formalised service provided by an external provider has recently been reduced. Life skills development in preparation for resettlement is good. The resettlement co-ordinator regularly attends the community review meeting to assess the impact of interventions in aiding resettlement. As part of transition young people have good access to research facilities for employment and training opportunities. Mobility is used well to enable young people to attend college interviews prior to release but is insufficiently used on a regular and planned basis to enable young people to gain a valuable work experience linked to the vocational areas available at the centre.

Standards of behaviour were generally good and in the best cases were managed well in the weaker sessions challenging behaviour was difficult to manage. Young people were rarely removed from class and where this happens it is managed well and young people are speedily returned to learning. Care staff were utilised well in managing poor behaviour and helping ensure that young people remained in learning. Attendance was good. Young people through courses provided by education, care staff and resettlement staff have good opportunities to develop their understanding of key areas of healthcare and wellbeing; a current focus is on healthy eating linked to maintaining a healthy weight.

The leadership and management of education and related learning activities is good. Tracking and monitoring of learning and the progress young people are making on an individual basis is used well to judge progress and inform planning. Staff qualifications were good with opportunities available for continued professional development. Quality assurance processes such as the observation of teaching learning and assessment focus on continual improvement.

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 main strengths, any areas for improvement, including any breaches of regulation, and any failure to meet national minimum standards. The judgements included in the report are made against the *Inspections of children's homes – framework for inspection* and the evaluation schedule for the inspection of children's homes.