

Inspection report for children's home

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	SC033362
<b>Inspection date</b>	14/01/2014
<b>Inspector</b>	Gaynor Moorey
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Interim
<b>Provision subtype</b>	Secure Unit

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<b>Date of last inspection</b>	03/06/2013
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## Service information

### Brief description of the service

This is a registered children's home approved by the Secretary of State to provide secure accommodation and care for girls and young women. The home can accommodate 16 young women whose behaviour has placed them or others at risk.

The home comprises of four individual living units with formal education provided on site.

This inspection has the purpose of informing the Secretary of State on the continuing suitability for this provision to operate as a secure unit to restrain children's liberty.

### 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, which was carried out in June 2013, the overall effectiveness of the home was judged as being good. One requirement and seven recommendations were made. These have been addressed and new systems and working practices have been developed to improve effectiveness.

Young people are supported with their behaviour and any risks they may take. Staff assess the wellbeing of the young people and appropriately provide support and care. Young people received medical assistance if requested during or after a physical intervention. The home has a new protocol in place regarding advising, offering and calling for medical help during and after a physical intervention has happened. The physical intervention form now has a clear section based on whether

a young person has asked for medical help, and if this has been provided for what reason and the nature of the help. Young people are able to make comments when given a sanction. The home have reviewed the template for the sanctions book and included a section for comment by the individual. Each young person also has a reflective account book to look at issues they may be experiencing or incidents that have happened at the home.

Young women have comprehensive placement plans, which now include pathway information where appropriate. A new system and programme of life skills is being introduced with the use of new facilities offering more independence skills training. Young people said they felt supported in their transition from the home to their new placements.

New protocols have been put into place to access to records to provide the most appropriate care for each person placed at the home. The new protocol includes sending out a letter on admission requesting information from the young people's individual Local Authorities. A reminder letter is sent out if the information has not been received in two weeks.

Young people continue to use National Youth Advocacy Service (NYAS) and all welcome packs include information and a NYAS form. There is a new system in place where a member of the admin team will replace and renew forms in each of the lounges so they are readily available for the young people to use. A new protocol for complaints sets out the requirement for young people to receive a written response. All complaints were seen to have been responded to in good time scales. Young people are consulted by the management team about what ideas they have for the home and what they would like to do. This was working well and the home now has a 'you asked, we did' board to show the young people the progress of their requests such as lunch boxes and more activities.

Young women's care plans now contain information about healthy diets and exercise. Choices are made by the young people, supported by keyworkers and education staff and requested activities are now provided. For example a personal trainer in the holidays, and a crossover of education and care staff undertaking the new sports awards to offer a larger range of activities. Young people could be seen doing circuit training and playing badminton on the day of the inspection.

A new greenhouse has been put into place to encourage the young women to think about and grow healthy food. The cook both meets with the young women to talk about the food and runs a club where she will teach the young people to cook different meals. During the summer and winter holidays the home increased the physical activities including utilising facilities indoors and introducing bike riding, trips to the seaside and kayaking.

The young people receive a good standard of medical care at the home. The staff and nurse support and care for the young people with any issues, problems or conditions they may have. The nurse has devised and implemented a safer system for the administration of medication in which all staff have now been trained.

The manager and the staff have worked hard to introduce new working practices and consistent systems to enhance the experience of young people when they are placed at the home. The consistency of care helps to ensure that the young people feel safe and are cared for as individuals.

The home received no requirements or recommendations at 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*.