

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC033152
Inspection date	18/03/2014
Inspector	Lynne Busby
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Date of last inspection	12/09/2013
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Service information

Brief description of the service

This service is a young people's home run by a local authority. The home is registered to provide a service for up to six young people, who have a learning disability and may also have a physical disability.

The home offers a short-term respite service only; no one is accommodated on a long-term basis and one of the six places is used only for emergency short breaks.

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 last inspection of the home was in September 2013. The overall effectiveness was judged to be outstanding. There were two recommendation raised at that visit which have been met.

Young people say they like coming to stay at the home and they have built positive relationships with staff. Young people benefit from frequent consultation opportunities. Staff are knowledgeable about young people's communication styles which ensures their views and wishes are acted upon including making a complaint. Records clearly indicate any complaints made and include the outcome which is fed back to the complainant. The staff have developed a 'points of view' book where young people can raise any issues. This book is monitored by the manager.

Staff are well supported in their role through regular supervision, annual appraisals and training. There is a matrix of all training staff have attended. This is evaluated to

ensure appropriate learning and development takes place. This has been effective as training for relief staff has improved. For example, epilepsy training has been resourced from an external trainer which is more in-depth. Consequently, staff have the skills and knowledge to meet individual needs of the young people.

The manager and staff continue to review practice and develop the service to ensure young people have opportunities to socially and emotionally develop and build their confidence. The service is now offering specific weekends for those young people who are moving towards adulthood. This includes individualised programmes where young people are learning skills for personal care, laundry, shopping and paying for items and understanding safety in the kitchen. All achievements are celebrated and staff say young people are really enjoying the experience and their confidence in daily tasks is growing.

Young people continue to be provided with excellent care by knowledgeable staff who knows them well. They provide a nurturing inclusive environment and are child-centred in their approach. This ensures outcomes for young people are positive.

There are no requirements or recommendations made 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*.