

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC020558
Inspection date	05/03/2012
Inspector	Judith Longden
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Residential special school (>295 days/year)

Date of last inspection	15/11/2011
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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 (March 2011)*.

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.

Service information

Brief description of the service

The privately owned school is registered as a children's home to accommodate 22 children and young people. The school provides education and care to children and young people who present with severe learning disabilities, challenging behaviours, autistic spectrum disorder and sensory impairment.

Progress

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

This home was judged as good at the last full inspection in November 2011 . Since that time the home has demonstrated continued improvement in the quality of care and the outcomes for young people. The home has addressed and met the two requirements made at the previous inspection. These were in relation to monitoring arrangements and processes.

The registered provider was required to ensure that monitoring visits include consultation and observation with young people, parents and staff. This has been met. The home's manager was required to supply to Ofsted a report in respect of any review conducted. This has been met. As a result the home now has excellent procedures for monitoring the quality of the service provided and the welfare of the young people.

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

Since the last inspection the manager and staff have improved generic and individual young people's risk assessments and developed incident contingency plans. This means the safety of young people continues to be of paramount importance.

Young people continue to make good progress in achieving positive outcomes. They have access to more varied leisure activities in the home and the community. Young people are achieving educational goals and developing competence in self care and independent living. As a result they are gaining in confidence and learning new skills. Young people benefit from significant improvements in contact arrangements and closer working with parents by the staff at the home.

Young people benefit from excellent placement and care plans that continue to develop and improve. Plans demonstrate how each young person is to be cared for and their likes and dislikes. Their individual needs are identified and the actions required to address these are detailed. As a result young people receive excellent care based on their individual need.

Staff benefit from an improved team meeting structure and enhanced communication

systems. As a result they are supported to continue to deliver a high quality service to young people.