

Statement by Victor McElfattrick

1. I joined the Social Work Advisory Group (SWAG) within the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) in 1975. Prior to that I had worked as a senior officer in the Probation and After Care Service. I was recruited by SWAG as a qualified social worker because of my background in offender work and my involvement in the development of professional training for probation and other and social work services. At that time the main function of SWAG was to advise the Northern Ireland Government Departments in the field of social policy and planning and on the provision of social work services. Within this broad remit the Group provided advice and support to the Social Services Departments of the four Area Health and Social Services Boards and voluntary organisations in order to promote good practice and standards. During the course of my work with the DHSS and following the Kincora scandal, which emerged in the early 1980s, SWAG began to take on inspectorial functions in relation to residential child care. I think these may have been the first inspections of children's homes undertaken by SWAG, although I am aware that there had been visits to children's homes by two staff (Miss Forrest and Miss Hill) from the Department over earlier years.
2. I have kept all my appointment diaries and from these I was able to tell which inspections I was involved in and the dates of the inspections. I was first involved in children's homes inspections in 1982. My diaries record that I inspected ten children's homes run by the Area Boards in 1982 (Easthope, Palmerston, Mt Oriel, Adelaide Park, Appletree House, Ettaville, Downpatrick FGH, Rosebank, Firbeck and Firmount Hostel. In 1983 I was involved in the inspection of six children's homes some of which were run by voluntary sector organisations (Childhaven, Tara Lodge, Carn View, Nazareth Lodge, Sharonmore and Ballee).
3. I left SWAG in 1985 but returned in 1987 by which time SWAG had been replaced by the Social Services Inspectorate (SSI). In my second period of employment, I initially worked as a Social Services Inspector and subsequently as an Assistant Chief Inspector. I remained in the SSI until my retirement in 2004.
4. As a Social Work Adviser (1975-85) I carried responsibility for advising the former Northern Ireland Office (NIO) on probation in addition to inspectorial responsibilities in the criminal justice and child care fields. At that time the NIO carried responsibility for the operation of the Northern Ireland Probation Service and was keen to move it on to become a more professional service than had been the case hitherto. I was also responsible for advising the DHSS in relation to training. I represented the DHSS on the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work (CCETSW) and was involved in the development of both post qualifying studies (PQS) and the new Certificate in

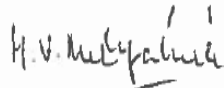
Social Services (CSS) in Northern Ireland, maintaining close links with the social work training establishments. I worked closely with the training branch in the DHSS and provided advice about a range of matters relating to the development and on-going provision of training for social workers and social care staff in the Boards and voluntary organisations.

5. From a distance of 30 + years I have very limited recall of detail about inspections which I carried out for DHSS and none at all of the inspection of Nazareth Lodge in 1983. Apart from the 1983 inspection I do not recall having undertaken any other work with the staff or management of Nazareth Lodge. I certainly have no recall of any reference to abuse of the children from the 1983 inspection and I think it likely that, had abuse of children come to our attention, it would have remained firmly in my memory. Had there been any such concerns we would certainly have referred to them in the inspection report.
6. I have had the opportunity to examine the Departmental file which contains the report of the inspection of Nazareth Lodge carried out between 10 and 12 October 1983 by Mr Norman Chambers and myself (SNB 14316). There was a number of concerns identified in the course of that inspection and these are covered in the inspection report. However, we did not come across any harsh treatment of the children or unacceptable methods of discipline. Later correspondence between Mr Chambers and the Eastern Board confirms that the children did not make any complaints regarding their treatment in Nazareth Lodge during the inspection visits (SNB 19053). The report resulted in 19 recommendations for actions to be taken to improve the running of the Home (SNB 50522). The Home's response to each of the recommendations is contained in a letter to the Department from Mother Paul, the Sister-in Charge of Nazareth Lodge at that time (SNB 50406). The concerns that were highlighted from the inspection related to matters such as fire safety, insufficient attention being given to individual work with the children by care staff, preoccupation with cleanliness and tidiness and the completion of a range of domestic duties allowing less time for care staff to respond to the emotional needs of the children, a sense of frustration amongst care staff at how they perceived the Home being managed by the Sisters in a rigid and authoritarian manner, staff being talked down to and treated as underlings, petty rules, lack of interaction between care staff and parents (restricted mainly to the Sisters), lack of attention to training and the development of staff etc. We also commented on what we regarded as inadequate staffing levels. In only one of the three groups did there appear to be duties carried out which in the inspectors' view resembled appropriate residential social work. Much, therefore, was required to be done to raise the standards of care in the Home. All in all, it could be concluded that there was room for much improvement in how the Home was being run. This inspection, of course, took place at a time when many children's homes were operated by staff with limited qualifications.

Two matters may merit particular comment:

7. Our report commented on the fact that there was no record book for recording the events of importance connected with the home, as required under Regulation 5 (3) and Schedule 2 of the Children and Young Persons (Voluntary Homes) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1975. Regulation 4 (2) requires the administering authority to make arrangements for monitoring visits to the home at least once in every month. From an inspector's perspective, evidence of such visits would be found in the record of events of importance. Since there was no record we did not have the evidence but we were informed that Mother Regional visited 3 or 4 times a year. Although we did comment on the lack of a record book for recording events of importance we should probably have made a stronger comment regarding what we perceived as the insufficient frequency of monitoring visits by Mother Regional. I understand that the Committee of Inquiry was informed that Mother Regional visited Nazareth Lodge 15/20 times a year in a monitoring capacity. I am sure we would not have recorded that Mother Regional's visits were only conducted 3 or 4 times a year unless we were so informed at the time. We did not see any record to show that there had been any more frequent visits by Mother Regional. We were informed she had appointed two "councillors" who met monthly to discuss the affairs of the home. However, this may not have provided adequate independent monitoring coverage to satisfy the objects of Regulation 4 (2). In any event the requisite record of events of importance, where such visits should have been recorded, did not exist. We should probably have made a stronger recommendation emphasising the administering authority's statutory obligation.
8. Regarding the visits of volunteers to work with the children we saw the potential for certain benefits from this. However, we did recommend, in our inspection report, that management should always make appropriate background enquiries regarding the credentials of persons offering to do voluntary work before linking them with the children. Although there may have been no statutory procedures dealing with the vetting of volunteers at the time I am now aware, from the Hughes Inquiry Report 1986 (paragraph 9.7 – HIA 909), that, by letter, dated July 1972, the Belfast Welfare Authority had asked the home to ensure that the Welfare Department was notified and couples or families approved before children in care were allowed out of the home, even for day visits. The sister in charge of the home gave evidence to the Hughes Inquiry that procedures had been laid down by the Boards that no child could receive a visitor nor could a visitor take a child away from the home without the proper approval of the field social worker responsible for the child. In light of this and its relevance to the position of volunteers within the home we should, perhaps, have made a more specific recommendation that clearance of volunteers should have been done by, or in close consultation with, the relevant HSS Board which had statutory responsibility for the children being visited.

9. I have no knowledge of the Nazareth House Children's Home, which I understand was run by the Sisters of Nazareth, since I was not involved in any inspection of that home nor did I have contact with it in any other way.



H V McElfatrick

20/03/2015

CONFIDENTIAL

A2272/92 HIA1(39)C

NAZARETH LODGE CHILDREN'S HOME

The Home was inspected by Mr Chambers and Mr McElfatrick on 10-12 October 1983. All Child Care staff who were available were interviewed. A sample of case files was examined and all statutory records were examined. Those parts of the building used by the children were inspected. Mother Paul (Mother Superior) has responsibility for all aspects of the home and for the Sisters of Nazareth who live there. In addition to the sisters who work in Nazareth Lodge there are some others who work in the local schools and a few retired nuns. Mother Paul is accountable to Mother Regional who is based in Dublin. The latter visits the home approximately 3 times a year. The Headquarters of the Order of Nazareth is in Hammersmith and Mother General visits the Home every 3 years. There is no committee of management and full responsibility for the staff and children is vested in Mother Paul. Mother Regional appoints 2 "councillors" who meet with her monthly to discuss the affairs of the home. These are 2 sisters one employed in the Home (SR 46 [REDACTED]) and another who works in the nursery school (SR 29 [REDACTED]). Their meeting is referred to as the Council for the Community but its function appears to be more advisory and consultative than executive.

The Home is divided into 3 functionally autonomous living units with approximately 12-14 children in each. Responsibility for day to day affairs is delegated by Mother Paul to the 3 Sisters who run the groups. It is possible for the Sisters to be self determining in a wide range of issues and we found that the regime in the 3 groups differed markedly. Only one of the Sisters is social work trained and this was evident in her approach to the residential task. It is fair to say that SR 121 [REDACTED] had only recently been appointed to the home and, while she is not social work trained she has considerable experience in working with adolescents in Birmingham and she may in time contribute to raising professional standards.

The management style in the home is rigidly hierarchical. The Sisters do not consult the staff on matters of policy and practice and an atmosphere of [their] authoritarianism prevails. In only one of the groups has staff had access to children's records though in another the Sister has recently told the staff that they may have access to the children's files. In only one group do staff attend case reviews; they have all limited, if any, contact with social workers. Just as the Sisters do not consult with the staff nor involve them in decision-making, so the lay staff do not acknowledge the Sisters as being members of the caring staff. They perceive them as authoritarian background figures who absent themselves from the group, particularly during periods when their help is needed. The

Sisters do not socialise with the staff, they eat separately and have their own living quarters. The need for the Sisters to attend to religious duties throughout the day is considered to be intrusive, and while it is understood that they may occasionally be late for Offices, their religious duties are considered to be paramount.

RESIDENTIAL TASK

The residential task undertaken by child care staff is described by them as being primarily the physical care of the children and a range of domestic duties. The latter includes clearing up after meals, sweeping and hoovering the floor, keeping bedrooms tidy and attending to all of the younger children's laundry. In one group the emphasis on cleanliness and routine domestic duties appear to be excessive if not obsessional, but all child care staff complained about the amount of time spent on domestic work.

The staffing complement in the Home is such that staff have little time to spend with the children beyond ensuring their physical care. No group activities are undertaken, other than escorting children to the swimming pool and no individual work is undertaken with them. In only one group did any activities resemble residential social work. This included weekly meetings to discuss the children. However, this group was short staff during the inspection and it has not been possible to roster all of the staff to ensure full attendance. In the same group a system of primary workers has been started and one staff will be responsible for groups of children from the same family. The range of discretion which the staff have is such that a system of primary workers could be developed to only a limited extent.

Children are encouraged to participate in outside activities and one formed the impression that the children had rather more freedom than the staff.

We were told that parents are encouraged to visit their children in the Home, but that very few avail of the opportunity. However, a considerable number of the children go home at weekends and this type of family contact is encouraged. Child care staff have no contact with parents, who speak to the Sisters if and when they visit the Home. Arrangements for parents to spend time with their children in Nazareth Lodge is very unsatisfactory. When they arrive they must speak to one of the Sisters and they are then permitted to spend time with their children in a small sitting room. A cup of tea will be provided for them. One of the Sisters encourages parents to assist the children with their homework as she feels they

should accept some responsibility for their children. The fact that parents may be unfamiliar with their children's school curriculum and feel incompetent to assist them did not seem to be relevant. Parents are not allowed to go to the children's bedrooms. They do not remain in the home during mealtimes nor do they put their children to bed. It is therefore not surprising that few avail themselves of the opportunity to visit their children in the home.

TRAINING

Training opportunities include attendance at the in-service course on social care. Consideration has not been given to seconding staff to either the CSS or CQSW courses. The staff were not aware of the Department's policy of grant aid. No in-house training is undertaken and it is doubtful whether either the staff or the sisters have time for this. When staff attend the in-service course they are not replaced, with the result that their colleagues carry an added burden. In practice this involves one member of staff having full responsibility for an entire group of up to 14 children.

STAFF MEETINGS

Comm.

Mother Paul and the 3 Sisters have a monthly staff meeting. These meetings are not documented and staff are not consulted prior to them nor are they advised of their outcome.

FIRE PRECAUTIONS

A mechanical fire alarm system has been installed throughout the home during the last 12 months. This work was grant aided by the Department and has only recently been completed. Up until the work began regular fire drills were held but these have lapsed during the last year. No fire drills have been held during that period and staff were very unclear about what to do in an emergency. Most staff understood that they should evacuate the building as quickly as possible, but some thought that the assembly points were in either the front hall or the rear hall. Mother Paul was concerned to have proper fire drills organised and there is no doubt that this will happen in consultation with the Northern Ireland Fire Service.

TRANSPORT

The home has a minibus which is used infrequently. The bus can be driven only by the Sisters and appears to be used only in connection with holidays or on special

occasions. Staff and children walked to the Castlereagh Swimming Baths and we were told that on occasions they walk from the home to the City Centre because money is not available for transport.

RECORDING - CHILDREN'S FILES

The children's files we examined contained admission to care forms, social history and free from infection certificates. Reviews have been held on each of the children every 6 months, when a report is prepared by the Sister in charge of the group. The supervising social worker completes the form C11 - progress reports on a child in care. Only some of the districts provide the home with minutes of the review and we consider this to be essential. The files examined in Sister Anne's group comprised a separate folder for each child. The review reports were orderly and Sister Anne's reports were comprehensive and her recommendations for each child were clearly stated. To this extent I would consider her contributions to reviews to be of a high standard. Rather than having a folder containing an assortment of loose papers a proper filing system should be developed, within which documents should be filed in sections.

Staff do not contribute to the children's files and I would consider this to be a serious omission.

Admission and discharge book - SR 194 maintains this register for the entire home. The register is properly maintained. A separate discharge book is signed by the social worker who receives the child on discharge. There is one book for the home.

DAILY LOG

This is a record of events rather than a diary and entries are not necessarily made every day. In some case entries were made only one in 4 or 5 days, though sometimes it was more frequent. The log is essentially a record of events rather than a means of passing on relevant information about the children's behaviour or their activities during a given day. The log is written up by the Sisters.

REGISTER

A daily register of children present in each group is kept.

None of the child care staff has any responsibility for case recording. Some of the staff have recently been issued with a notebook for the purpose of recording observations. SR 121SR 121 has, within the last few weeks, introduced one book in her group to encourage staff to record observations about the children and it is intended that this will be used for handing over purposes.

REVIEWS

Staff in one group now attend reviews. Otherwise they are attended by Mother Paul, the sister responsible for the group, SR 194 and staff from the area Board. In view of the fact that ^{MINUTES OF} administrative reviews are not made available to the home it is not possible to evaluate their effectiveness.

MEDICAL CARE

Children are registered with a group practice on the Ormeau Road. Most of the files we examined contained a record of a recent medical examination. Most of the children are registered with this group practice though some who are admitted on a short term basis may stay with their family doctor.

DENTAL CARE -

FOOD

The children we talked to were content with the food in the home. Nevertheless it was observed that some of them did not eat it and we were told by the staff that they have very limited scope to provide the children with anything different. Each group has its own kitchen but their supply of food is limited to bread, cheese, butter and jam and cereal. one meal we had was tasteless and unappetising and most staff complained about the food they receive. Staff do not have facilities for preparing group food for themselves other than in the group kitchens.

A supply of fruit is sent to each group on Sundays and this has to last for the week. No staff indicated that the supply of fruit was inadequate. We did not examine a record of menus but staff complained that the menu was repetitive and uninteresting. All children receive school meals and in addition have a light cooked meal in the evening. This is referred to as supper but they may have toast or cereal before they go to bed.

STAFF

Conditions of service are very unclear and there is some doubt as to whether staff

have received contracts of employment. Staff complained that they could not understand differentials between their salaries and from the figures quoted to us the amounts paid to them appear to be low. Mother Paul said that the scales were based on a National Joint Council scale but she was unable to explain the basis of remuneration.

Staff work split shifts and they appear to work between 56 and 70 hours per week. All staff, with the exception of one temporary member is resident. They have very little freedom to socialise during off-duty periods and complained that they have neither a staff sitting room nor a staff kitchen. We were told that a staff sitting room had been prepared but that as yet it had not been used. They complained that they had little privacy in their rooms and that the Sisters frequently complain that they are noisy. The home does not provide a television for them though they may go to the group sitting rooms to watch television.

As a staff group they appear to get along well and they seem to enjoy working with the children. However their relationship with the nuns is very poor and none of the staff is content. Their principal grievances are to do with salary levels, split shifts and living conditions. While these are important considerations we would be equally concerned about their professional development which is virtually non-existent.

VOLUNTEERS

The only volunteers who come to the home are student priests. They appear to make a valuable contribution and most of the children are glad to see them. We were advised of one exception. They take the children to the swimming pool, play games with them and in one group they provide assistance with homework. All of their contact with the children while they are in the home is supervised and they are not available in the evenings. It is assumed that the vetting process undertaken by their college is adequate for the purpose of ensuring their suitability to visit the home.

FUNDING

The Eastern Board has recently increased the weekly payment from £80 to with effect from 1 April 1983. We did not see any documentation on this matter but were advised that a condition of the increased payment was that 2 additional staff would be employed in each group. By making this a condition the Board is effectively imposing a staffing level on the home and their action in this matter needs to be clarified. Prior to this decision being made the home was incurring

a substantial deficit and the Board agreed to a deficit payment of £45,000 for the year ended 31 March 1982. The capacity of the home has now been reduced to 40 and the fourth group has been closed down. There is obviously concern by the Order about the financial viability of the home and there is little doubt that the low staffing complement is a result of this. To this extent the Board carries some responsibility.

CONCLUSION

The statement of aims and objectives is entirely appropriate for this type of home. however in the absence of a statement of the residential task it is very difficult to evaluate the effectiveness of the service being provided. There are some very obvious omissions, particularly in the area of independence training for adolescents and the inability of the staff to undertake any work with children on an individual basis or with parents. As stated above no staff have contact with either parents or social workers, nor do they have contact with schools. It must therefore be assumed that the Sisters undertake all of these functions and that this is an effective way of carrying out the principal elements of the residential task. While one of the Sisters clearly has this ability and another who has been in post for only one month has undoubtedly a lot to contribute the third Sister had little understanding of residential social work and her ideas are largely irrelevant to the statement of aims and objectives. The fact that no staff is substantially involved in carrying out the aims of the home is a serious indictment of the regime.

N. J. Chambers.

18/10/83

In Confidence

REPORT ON
NAZARETH LODGE CHILDREN'S HOME
516 RAVENHILL ROAD
BELFAST

Social Work Advisory Group
Department of Health and Social Services

CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
1	INTRODUCTION	1
2	HISTORY, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	2-3
3	DESCRIPTION OF THE FACILITY	4-6
4	FIRE PRECAUTIONS	7-8
5	MANAGEMENT	9-11
6	STAFFING AND STAFF TRAINING	12-14
7	PROFILE OF THE RESIDENTS	15
8	APPROACH TO THE RESIDENTIAL CARE TASK	16-22
9	RECORDS AND REVIEWS	23-25
10	SUPPORT SERVICES	26-27
11	CONCLUSION	28
12	SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS	29-31
	APPENDICES	32-36

INSPECTION REPORT ON: NAZARETH LODGE CHILDREN'S HOME

516 RAVENHILL ROAD

BELFAST BT6 OBX

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Nazareth Lodge is a large voluntary home for the residential care of children. Departmental records indicate a maximum capacity level of 58 children and young persons. The management in the home has accepted that, in practice, the number of residents is unlikely ever to exceed 40. The home is owned and administered by the Order of the Poor Sisters of Nazareth. The headquarters of the Order are in Hammersmith, London and regional oversight is exercised by Mother Regional who is based in Dublin.

1.2 The inspection was carried out in accordance with the provisions of Section 168 of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968 by Mr N J Chambers and Mr H V McElfattrick of the Social Work Advisory Group on 10-12 October 1983.

1.3 The primary purpose of the inspection was to assess the standard of care provided by the home. It is recognised that inspection may raise anxieties and create additional work for staff. The advisers would like to express their thanks to the Mother Superior, Sisters, care staff and children for their co-operation and assistance during the inspection.

2.0 HISTORY, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Nazareth Lodge has existed as a children's home since 1899, when "Fox Lodge" (formerly a home for Protestant boys) became vacant and was purchased by the Order of the Sisters of Nazareth. Large numbers of boys were admitted and were educated by the Sisters in classrooms within the home. In 1934, at the request of St Patrick's Orphan Society, the Sisters undertook the care of babies. This work continued at Nazareth Lodge until St Joseph's Baby Home was opened in 1953. In the same year the De La Salle Brothers opened a residential school for boys at Kircubbin, Co Down and from then on boys were transferred from Nazareth Lodge to Kircubbin as soon as they reached the age of 11 years. It was not until 1967 that girls were first admitted. In 1972 the wing, known as Bethlehem, was converted into 2 family group units and a little later 2 floors in the main building were also converted for 2 family group units. With a falling demand for places one of the units in the main building has been closed so that at present there are 3 groups with numbers varying between 11 and 14 children in each group.

2.2 The following statement of the aims and objectives of the home was provided by the Mother Superior prior to the inspection:-

- (1) to provide for the care of children in a residential setting
- (2) to provide a caring, stable environment in which the spiritual, physical, emotional and social needs of the child are met

- (3) to co-operate with the Department of Health and Social Service's Area Boards and field social workers in making appropriate plans for the future of the child
- (4) to create an atmosphere in which the child is enabled to develop true Christian principles and values
- (5) to ensure that opportunities are provided within the home and outside it - through relationships with staff and other children, through contact with parents, social workers, teachers and friends, for the children to realise their full potential and gain a measure of independence - thus ensuring an early return to their own community.

3.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE FACILITY

- 3.1 Nazareth Lodge is a large, 4 storey red-brick building located in grounds extending to several acres. The grounds also accommodate St Joseph's Children's Home, St Michael's Primary School and a nursery school. The home which is set well back from the Ravenhill Road is situated approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the city centre.
- 3.2 The gardens which surround the home are laid out in grass and are well maintained. Apart from the roof and guttering which are understood to require attention the building appears to be in good structural condition. The home has been pleasantly decorated throughout. The use of wallpaper and carpeting and the introduction of lower false ceilings has done much to reduce the institutional appearance.
- 3.3 To the side of the main building has been added a 2 storey 'L' shaped wing. It is known as Bethlehem House and it accommodates 2 of the 3 groups of children at Nazareth Lodge.
- 3.4 The arrangement of the accommodation on the ground and first floors in Bethlehem House and on the 2nd floor of the main building is shown in the sketch plans at appendix A. The bedrooms for both units in Bethlehem are on the first floor. There are 8 single rooms, 6 double rooms and 2 rooms have accommodation for 3 and 4 children. At ground floor level in Bethlehem each unit has its own kitchen, dining-room, sitting-room, study and office. There is adequate

storage space and toilet provision. The Bethlehem units are located alongside each other and are joined by a corridor which runs through both. Nevertheless, the children are encouraged to keep to their own unit.

3.5 The staff quarters are located in Bethlehem House at 1st floor level between the children's bedrooms and the main house. These comprise 8 single bedrooms and there are bathroom and toilet facilities. There was no staff sitting-room when we visited but it is understood a room on the ground floor of Bethlehem House is being set aside for this purpose in the future.

3.6 In the main Nazareth Lodge building there is now only one group of children. Its accommodation is all on one level on the 2nd floor. Until a few months ago there was another group on the 3rd floor but with reducing numbers it was closed down and the children reallocated to the remaining groups. The 3rd floor accommodation is similar in layout to that on the 2nd floor. The accommodation on the 2nd floor comprises a study, a sitting-room, an office, a kitchen/laundry and dining-room. There is a staff bedroom, 4 single bedrooms and 4 larger bedrooms each of which accommodates 2 or 3 children. Each of the bedrooms has a wash-hand basin. The 2nd floor which is served by a lift has a stairway at either end. There are adequate bath and toilet facilities and there is a doorway at ground floor level giving direct access to this unit.

3.7 Nazareth Lodge also comprises a convent and accommodates a number of nuns who do not work in the children's home. The first floor is mainly occupied by a chapel. The ground floor has several large reception rooms which appear to be little used. To the rear of the building there is a large kitchen which provides the main meals for each of the 3 children's units. There is also a large dining hall but this is seldom used by the children, who have meals in their own units.

4.0 FIRE PRECAUTIONS

4.1 Over the past year a considerable amount of work has been done to improve the fire precautions. An automatic alarm system has been installed with smoke and heat detectors at various points throughout the home. There are alarm activating points and fire extinguishers on all floors and fire doors have been fitted to prevent the spread of smoke and fire. Emergency exits are clearly marked by illuminated overhead signs. Whilst there are no external fire escapes, except from the nuns' living quarters, there are internal stairways at each end of the Bethlehem wing. There are also stairways at either end of the main building which would provide alternative means of escape in case of fire.

4.2 The Children and Young Persons (Voluntary Homes) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1975 require that there should be records of all fire precautions agreed upon after consultation with the fire authority. Now that the upgrading work has been completed it is appropriate that management, in consultation with the fire authority, bring its records regarding fire precautions up to date. It is recommended that this be done as soon as possible.

4.3 It is not clear when officers of the fire authority last addressed members of staff about the dangers of fire, the operation of fire extinguishers and on the subject of fire drills. A fire authority report dated 2 February 1983 indicated that such an exercise had taken place on 14 October 1981. No record could be found of any

more recent one. Clearly some time has passed since the last exercise and new staff have joined the home. It is recommended that a further visit from the fire authority be requested to keep staff informed about fire precautions.

- 4.4 Fire drills appear to have been carried out regularly until 20 September 1982. The fire drill book records that practices were held on 16 February 1982, 20 March 1982, 24 May 1982, 5 July 1982 and 20 September 1982. However, none has been recorded since September 1982. Fire drills have not been carried out since work commenced on the installation of the new fire precaution system a year ago. It is unsatisfactory that such a long period should occur without any practices being held and it is recommended that arrangements be made for one to be carried out at an early stage. It is further recommended that a system be developed to ensure that fire drills are carried out regularly in future.

5.0 MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 There is no management committee for the home and full responsibility for the staff and children is vested in Mother Paul, the Mother Superior. She is also responsible for all aspects of the running of the home and for the Sisters of Nazareth who live there. In addition to the Sisters who work in Nazareth Lodge there are some others who work in the local schools and a few retired nuns. Mother Paul is accountable to the Mother Regional, who is based in Dublin. The latter visits the home 3 or 4 times a year. She has appointed 2 "councillors" who meet monthly to discuss the affairs of the home. These are 2 nuns, one employed within the home (Sister Ambrose) and another who works in the nearby nursery school (Sister Michael). Their meeting is referred to as the Council for the Community but its function appears to be more advisory and consultative than executive. Mother General, who is based at the Order's headquarters in Hammersmith also visits the home every 3 years and looks at all aspects of the running of the home.
- 5.2 Mother Paul is supported by 3 nuns who are in charge of the house units. One carries special responsibility for the co-ordination of case reviews. All 3 nuns meet with Mother Paul from time to time to discuss the running of the home. In this forum there is opportunity for discussion about possible changes in the organisation and running of the groups.
- 5.3 The home is divided into 3 functionally autonomous living units. In one unit there were 11 children. The other 2 had 12 and 14 children respectively. Responsibility for the day to day affairs

is delegated by Mother Paul to the Sisters who are in charge of the units. The regime varies between units and appears to be very much influenced by the ideas and attitudes of the Sister in charge.

- 5.4 The management style in the units appears to be rather autocratic. Whilst there is some variation between them the Sisters tend not to consult with staff on matters of policy and practice and most of the staff feel that they have relatively little opportunity to influence decisions. In only one of the units are there regular meetings of the staff group. In general staff expressed the opinion that their views did not carry much weight with the Sisters. Whilst they all seem to enjoy working with the children few of them appear to have full job satisfaction because of the relatively limited role they are given. There are some signs of improvement, however. In one group staff now attend case reviews and it is understood that staff are being given access to the children's files. Such developments are to be welcomed but much more needs to be done to ensure that staff achieve their full potential. Management should find ways of increasing the role of staff in developing plans for the children. More attention should be given to their views about issues which affect their conditions of employment and matters concerning the care of the children. It is important that where staff do offer opinions these should receive sensitive consideration by management. To facilitate such a development it is recommended that regular group meetings be arranged within each of the units.

5.5 Staff duties are organised on a rota basis. The Sisters are available in the home at all times. The rota arrangements for the assistant houseparents vary from one unit to another but work is organised on the basis of a 40 hour week. It is arranged on a 3 week cycle with 7 days on/2 days off/8 days on/4 days off. In one unit there is generally only one member of staff on duty in the morning along with the Sister whilst in the other 2 units there are frequently 2 on duty with the Sister. In all units there are usually 2 members of staff on duty with the Sister in the afternoon and evening shift. In Sister Theresa's group, where most of the children go home for week-ends there is only one member of staff on duty with her for most of the time over the week-end. Most of the staff are required to work split shifts occasionally. Since all but one of the staff are resident in the home this arrangement appears to work fairly well, although it can be restricting for the staff. An example of the rota arrangements is provided at appendix B.

6.0 STAFFING AND STAFF TRAINING

- 6.1 The staff at Nazareth Lodge comprise the Mother Superior, 3 Sisters who act as leaders in each of the units and 9 care staff who are designated as assistant houseparents. One of the assistant houseparents is employed in a temporary capacity until a full time appointment can be made. One of the Sisters holds the Certificate of Qualification in Social Work (CQSW) but there are no other staff with professional qualifications in social work. One Sister and 5 of the care staff have completed the in-service course in social care and 3 further members of the care staff are currently attending this course at Rupert Stanley College. The third Sister is the holder of the Nursery Nurses Education Board (NNEB) Certificate. The Mother Superior is a trained teacher. The responsibilities which she carries appear to be mainly administrative and managerial rather than in the area of direct caring for children.
- 6.2 In addition to the caring staff there are 8 domestic staff employed on a part-time basis, a cook and 4 part-time assistant cooks. Reception duties are the responsibility of a nun who is assisted on a part-time basis by 3 others. Two men are employed on general maintenance work. They maintain the boiler, undertake minor repairs and look after the grounds.

6.3 The staffing levels in the home are low by comparison with those in other homes of comparable size. Allowance needs to be made for the commitment of time by the Sisters, who do not work a conventional 40 hour week. Apart from short periods of leave they are available to the children most of the time and they undertake sleeping-in duties. However, even allowing for this it is considered that the staffing levels are inadequate. Under present arrangements when a member of the care staff is on leave or attending a training course there is often only one member of care staff on duty in the unit along with the Sister. The Castle Priory Report guidelines would suggest that a home of this size accommodating children aged between 3 and 16 years requires at least 18 care staff as well as the management staff. It is understood that agreement has been reached recently in discussion with Eastern Health and Social Services Board representatives, to have the per capita payment increased.

6.4 All of the care staff are female. It is considered important that children growing up in care should have the opportunity for contact with adults of both sexes. It can be advantageous to have male staff to help with the supervision of practical and recreational activities of adolescent boys. The employment of some male staff would give adolescent males the chance to model themselves on appropriate adult male figures. It is, therefore, recommended that in recruiting staff consideration be given to the possibility of appointing some men.

- 6.5 Three of the assistant houseparents are currently attending the in-service course in social care at Rupert Stanley College on a day release basis. The fact that these opportunities are being provided is welcomed and it is considered the course will be beneficial to the home in the longer term. However, as far as could be ascertained little consideration has been given to the possibility of seconding staff for professional training. The standard of practice in the home could be improved by providing such opportunities. The Department of Health and Social Services has provision for financial assistance to voluntary organisations wishing to second staff to professional training courses and it is recommended that consideration be given to seconding some staff to either Certificate of Qualification in Social Work or Certificate in Social Service courses.
- 6.6 It appears that few of the staff are enabled to attend relevant short training courses to keep them up to date with current thinking in residential child care practice. It is recommended that attention be given to this. The Department of Health and Social Services may be able to assist with the cost of fees where such courses are used.

7.0 PROFILE OF THE RESIDENTS

- 7.1 There were 36 children and young persons resident at Nazareth Lodge at the time of the inspection, a family of 4 children having been discharged home a few days earlier.
- 7.2 The ages of the residents range from 3 to 16 years. The oldest boy is in employment and most of the other children are at school. Approximately half of them are attending secondary schools and the others are of primary school age. A number attend special schools in different parts of the city.
- 7.3 All but 6 of the residents are in the care of the Eastern Health and Social Services Board. Two are from the Southern Health and Social Services Board and 4 have been placed by the Northern Health and Social Services Board.
- 7.4 Twenty-two of the residents are the subjects of Fit Person Orders and 11 are in care under Section 103 of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968. The remaining 3 young persons are in care under Parental Rights Order.
- 7.5 Twenty-five out of the total of 36 are members of sibling groups. These include a family of 5, 2 families of 3 and 7 sibling pairs. With one exception, the family groups have been kept together in the home.

8.0 APPROACH TO THE RESIDENTIAL CARE TASK

8.1 Reference has already been made to the fact that the children are divided into 3 separate groups. Each group is staffed by the Sister in charge and 3 assistant houseparents. The approach to the residential care task varies from one group to another which makes it difficult to generalise about the overall practice within the home. However, the division of the home into 3 discrete units should provide increased possibilities for the needs of individual children to be identified and met.

8.2 The present staffing levels are such that staff do not have enough time to spend in direct work with the children. Few group activities are organised within the home other than trips to the swimming pool and staff are more involved in tending the children than in planning and activating programmes of care which are designed to meet their individual needs. The assistant houseparents describe their work as primarily the physical care of the children and undertaking a range of domestic duties. The latter includes cleaning up after meals, sweeping and Hoovering, keeping bedrooms tidy and attending to all the younger children's laundry. In one group the emphasis on cleanliness and routine domestic duties appears to be excessive and all the care staff complained about the amount of time spent on domestic work. It is not inappropriate for care staff to be involved in a certain amount of domestic work but this should never be allowed to interfere with the important task of responding to the emotional and developmental needs of children.

There are a number of domestic staff employed in the home and it is recommended that consideration be given to rearranging some of the current domestic chores to permit care staff to have more time for direct involvement with the children.

- 8.3 In one group an effort is being made by the Sister to engage the care staff more actively in work with individual children. They are asked to take special responsibility for small groups of children such as those belonging to the same family. The elements of a primary worker system already exist in this group and can be further developed. In a primary worker system each member of staff is given responsibility for one or two children. The primary worker is expected to develop a close working relationship with those children and to play a major part in their lives. This will include setting aside time for discussion of personal problems, maintaining close contact with parents and relatives and, along with others, developing plans to meet the children's needs. Primary workers also attend to material needs such as helping young people choose their own clothes. They make detailed entries in the children's personal files, ensure that the files are kept up to date and are involved in the preparation of reports for case reviews. Since they have a good understanding of the needs and wishes of their children their ideas can be very helpful when future plans are being drawn up at case reviews. The primary worker system should ensure that no child is overlooked and it can lead to improved job satisfaction for the care staff. Consideration is being given to the development of a primary

worker system throughout the home. It is recommended that such a system be put into operation. The success of a primary worker system will, in part, be dependent on the availability of regular supervision for care staff.

- 8.4 Contact with parents is an important consideration for children in residential care. A number of the children go home at week-ends and this sort of family contact is encouraged. It appears, however, that the number of parents who visit their children in the home is small. Parents who visit the home have little communication with care staff and their contacts are mainly with the Sisters. Parents meet their children in a small sitting-room. They are not allowed to go to the children's bedrooms. The advisers consider that greater efforts could be made to encourage parental visiting. It is recommended, therefore, that more be done to make parents feel welcome and to encourage them to maintain regular contact with their children.

- 8.5 The children are permitted to bring their school friends into the home and they can visit their friends' homes. This helps to integrate them with the local community. In addition they are encouraged to participate in recreational activities in the locality. Many of them attend youth organisations such as the Scouts, Guides, Cubs and Brownies. As well as this they attend the Rosario Youth Club and go swimming at Castlereagh swimming pool. Some of the older ones go out to discos. Within the home itself

the children have access to a range of indoor games and most of them spend part of their leisure time watching television. Staff accompany groups of children to the pool and there are a number of volunteers who visit the home and take the children out.

- 8.6 For the past few years the residents have had visits from volunteers. This arrangement was established prior to the arrival of Mother Paul at Nazareth Lodge but she has been content to allow the visits to continue. There are benefits for children and staff alike in such an arrangement. It allows children access to adult male company in a home which is run entirely by female staff. In the light of recent events at some other homes it is considered that it would be prudent for the management of the home to satisfy itself regarding the background of anyone who is likely to have continuing contact with the children. It is recommended, therefore, that management should always make appropriate background enquiries regarding the credentials of persons offering to do voluntary work before linking them with the children.

- 8.7 The home has its own minibus. Staff, however, said that it is used infrequently. It can be driven only by the Sisters and appears to be used mainly in connection with special occasions and holidays. Staff and children have on occasion to walk quite long distances, for example, to the city centre, because money is not available for transport. It is unfortunate that an asset such as this is used so little when it could make a real contribution to widening the

children's experiences. It is hoped greater use can be made of the minibus in future.

8.8 As can be expected in any children's home the staff are confronted by incidents of misbehaviour by the children from time to time. These are dealt with in a variety of ways including the withdrawal of privileges. A young person may be refused permission to go to the youth club or watch television or he may find that his pocket money is reduced. Staff will sometimes remove an errant child from the group to talk to him about his behaviour. Where a child is isolated from the group it is normally only for a short period. If bad behaviour persists the situation would be discussed by the Sister with the child's fieldworker. The forms of discipline about which the advisers were informed were not excessive but the practice of reducing pocket money for misdemeanours is regarded as unsatisfactory.

8.9 The Sisters do not have their meals along with the children. Some of the care staff, although present at meal times, prefer not to eat the food provided as they do not find it appetising. It was noted that a small number of children did not finish their meals on the occasion when the advisers dined with them. Although the menus' record indicates that a balanced diet is provided the way in which the food is prepared and presented may need to be reviewed. It would be preferable if the Sisters and staff on duty were to dine along with the children in order to create a more family like environment. This would enable staff to be more aware of the quality of the meals. It is recommended that management take steps to satisfy itself that the meals provided for the children are appetising.

8.10 The supplies of food are purchased in bulk and the main meals prepared in the central kitchen. This is institutional practice which bears little resemblance to normal family life. Each group has its own kitchen but at present their supply of food is limited to items such as cereal, cheese, tea, bread and biscuits which means they can prepare nothing more than light snacks. There would be merit in setting aside a certain amount of money to enable young people themselves to be involved occasionally in the purchase of their own food. The budgeting involved and the actual purchasing would help them learn about the cost of living. There would also be merit in allowing the children to be involved in the preparation of their own meals in the group kitchens from time to time. It is recommended that consideration be given to ways in which such opportunities can be provided for the older children to obtain these experiences.

8.11 The Sisters undertake much of the purchasing of clothes for the children although staff may accompany the young people on shopping trips. Some of the older residents are permitted to make their own purchases and if they wish to use some of their savings for the purchase of certain clothes this is accepted. The recently developed arrangements for older children to make cash purchases are welcomed.

8.12 All the children receive pocket money, the actual amount varying according to age. For example, a 14 year old gets £2.30 per week whilst a 16 year old gets £2.60. The children are encouraged to

save some of their pocket money and normally about a third is set aside for savings. The rest can be spent according to the wishes of the children but at least some of it each week goes towards admission to the swimming pool or discos.

9.0 RECORDS AND REVIEWS

- 9.1 A register containing the date of admission and date of discharge of every child accommodated in the home is maintained by Sister Anne. A separate discharge book is signed by the social worker who receives the child or young person upon discharge. These records were found to be properly maintained.
- 9.2 There is no record book for the recording of events of importance connected with the home as required under regulation 5(3) and schedule 2 of the Children and Young Persons (Voluntary Homes) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1975. Some events of this nature are recorded in the daily log along with other less significant occurrences. It is recommended that events of importance should be recorded in a separate book.
- 9.3 A record of menus of the meals provided for the children is kept in a book in the kitchen. It is kept up to date and indicates that a balanced diet is being provided.
- 9.4 Comment has been made elsewhere in this report on the need for the records of fire practices and fire precautions to be brought up to date.

9.5 Case files are kept for each of the residents. These include the medical records required under regulation 5(4) of the Voluntary Homes Regulations. They also contain forms connected with admission to care, social history reports and progress reports. On most of the files there are school reports and freedom from infection certificates. Some of the files do not contain a copy of the court order which led to the child's committal to care. It is recommended that copies of the relevant court orders be obtained from the social services department for inclusion in the files. The case files also contain reports which have been prepared by the Sisters in advance of case reviews. Some of these are of a high standard, including clear recommendations for future work to be carried out with the children.

9.6 Case reviews are held 6 monthly or more often, if necessary. Normally they are chaired by the assistant principal social worker and attended by the fieldworker and team leader from the social services office. The home is represented by Mother Paul, the Sister in charge of the unit in which the child has been placed and Sister Anne. Recently some of the other care staff have been involved in the reviews. The reports of the case reviews are not always included in the children's files. These should be an important part of the files since they include the record of the agreed plans for each child or young person. It is understood that social services do not always send copies of the reports to the home. In these circumstances the care staff may not always be aware

of the plans to be followed with individual children. It is recommended, therefore, that social services be asked to ensure that a copy of the report of each case review is forwarded to the home for inclusion on the file. When this has been done it should help the care staff to be more aware of the part they are expected to play in putting plans into action.

10.0 SUPPORT SERVICES

SOCIAL WORK

10.1 The frequency of contact by social workers varies but most field-workers appear to visit, at least, monthly. Contact with social workers is usually by the Sisters but the other care staff appear to have little contact with them. As the primary worker system develops it is expected that there will be much more direct contact between primary workers and fieldworkers. This should help care staff to have a clearer picture of the role they will be expected to play with the children. There is already evidence that some primary workers are being asked to attend case reviews and contribute to the development of plans for the future care of the children.

MEDICAL

10.2 The medical officer for the home is Dr B Khosravi, 139/141 Ormeau Road. Most of the children are registered with Dr Khosravi or one of the other doctors in the practice, Dr I J Keenan or Dr A McDonnell. The doctor visits the home weekly and is attentive to the medical needs of the children. Regular medical inspections are carried out for each child. These are done annually but arrangements are now being made for them to coincide with the children's reviews. The medical records were examined and found to be up to date. The service being provided by the medical officer appears to be satisfactory.

EDUCATION

10.3 The children attend a variety of schools including St Michael's Primary School, St Aloysius' School, and St Augustine's and St Monica's Secondary Schools. Other children with special educational requirements attend Greenwood House Diagnostic Centre, and Oakleigh and Harberton Special Schools. The youngest child attends the nearby nursery school. Contact with the schools is maintained by the Sisters but the care staff have little direct contact with the children's teachers. It is hoped that as the primary worker system develops within the home those staff designated as primary workers will be encouraged to develop direct links with the relevant class teachers with a view to keeping in touch with the children's educational progress. Care staff in the home supervise and assist with homework as necessary.

11.0 CONCLUSION

11.1 At present the home is acting as a general purpose children's home accommodating 36 children and young persons between the ages of 3 and 16 years. Each of the groups has a number of children who have been in care for some time as well as some short-term children. One of the stated objectives of the home is "to ensure that opportunities are provided.....for children to realise their full potential and gain a measure of independence - thus ensuring an early return to their own community". However, half the children in the home have been there for periods of 2 years or more and a quarter of them for 5 years or more. Few of the children present serious behavioural problems for staff. It is considered that more could be done in some of the units to prepare residents for independence and it is recommended that management give consideration to ways in which this can be achieved.

11.2 The future demands in residential care are likely to be different. It is expected that increasingly the demand will be for residential placements for adolescents who present difficult patterns of behaviour and require residential care for shorter periods. It is considered the home is not at present adequately prepared to meet such a demand and that changes will be needed if it is to retain its viability in the longer term. It is, therefore, recommended that management discuss with the Eastern Health and Social Services Board what sort of service is likely to be needed in future and make its plans accordingly.

12.0 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Management should, in consultation with the fire authority, bring its records regarding fire precautions up to date as soon as possible (4.2).
2. A visit from the fire authority should be requested to keep staff informed about fire precautions (4.3).
3. Arrangements should be made for a fire drill to be carried out at an early stage (4.4).
4. A system should be developed to ensure that fire drills are carried out regularly in future (4.4).
5. Regular group meetings should be arranged within each of the units to ensure that staff are given the opportunity to express their views about matters which affect their conditions of employment and matters concerning the care of the children (5.4).
6. In recruiting staff consideration should be given to the possibility of appointing some men (6.4).
7. Consideration should be given to seconding some staff to either Certificate of Qualification in Social Work or Certificate in Social Service courses (6.5).

8. Staff should be given the opportunity to attend relevant short training courses periodically to keep them up to date with current thinking in residential child care practice (6.6).
9. It is recommended that consideration be given to rearranging some of the current domestic chores to permit care staff to have more time for direct involvement with the children (8.2).
10. It is recommended that a primary worker system be put into operation (8.3).
11. It is recommended that more be done to make parents feel welcome and to encourage them to maintain regular contact with their children (8.4).
12. It is recommended that management should always make appropriate background enquiries about the character of persons offering to do voluntary work before linking them with the children (8.6).
13. Management should take steps to satisfy itself that the meals provided for children are appetising (8.9).
14. Consideration should be given to ways in which opportunities can be provided, from time to time, for the older children to be more involved in the purchase of food and in the preparation of their own meals in the group kitchens (8.10).

15. Events of importance connected with the home should be recorded in a book set aside for that purpose (9.2).
16. Copies of the relevant court orders should be obtained from the social services department for inclusion in the files (9.5).
17. Social services should be asked to ensure that a copy of the report of each case review is sent to the home for inclusion on the file (9.6).
18. Management should give consideration to ways in which residents can be prepared more effectively for independence (11.1).
19. Management should discuss with the Eastern Health and Social Services Board what sort of service is likely to be needed in future and make its plans accordingly (11.2).

Example of Rota Arrangements at Nazareth LodgeGroup A

	Week 1			Week 2			Week 3		
	Member 1	Member 2	Member 3	Member 1	Member 2	Member 3	Member 1	Member 2	Member 3
Sat	OFF	9-5	3-11	3-11	OFF	9-5	9-5	3-11	OFF
Sun	OFF	1-9	8.30-4.30	8.30-4.30	OFF	1-9	1-9	8.30-4.30	OFF
Mon	1-9	7.30-10.30 & 3-8	OFF	OFF	1-9	7.30-10.30 & 2-8	7.30-10.30 & 3-8	OFF	1-9
Tue	7.30-10.30 & 3-8	7.30-9.30 & 1-9	OFF	OFF	7.30-10.30 & 2-8	7.30-9.30 & 3-9	7.30-9.30 & 3-9	OFF	7.30-9.30 & 2-8
Wed	1-9	7.30-3.30	College	1-9	7.30-10.30 & 2-8	College	7.30-3.30	1-9	College
Thurs	7.30-10.30 & 3-8	OFF	7.30-9.30 & 3-9	7.30-10.30 & 2-8	7.30-9.30 & 3-9	OFF	OFF	7.30-10.30 & 2-8	7.30-9.30 & 3-9
Frid	7.30-9.30 & 3-9	OFF	7.30-9.30 & 2-8	7.30-9.30 & 3-9	7.30-10.30 & 2-7	OFF	OFF	7.30-9.30 & 3-9	7.30-9.30 & 2-8

<u>Group B</u>	M1	M2	M3	M1	M2	M3	M1	M2	M3
Sat	OFF	9-5	1-9	1-9	OFF	9-5	9-5	1-9	OFF
Sun	OFF	1-9	8.30-2.00 & 5-7.30	8.30-2.00 & 5-7.30	OFF	1-9	1-9	8.30-2.00 & 5-7.30	OFF
Mon	1-9	7.30-12 & 3.30-9	OFF	OFF	1-9	7.30-12 & 3.30-9	7.30-12 & 3.30-9	OFF	1-9
Tue	7.30-10.30 & 3.30-8.30	1-9	OFF	OFF	7.30-10.30 & 3.30-8.30	1-9	1-9	OFF	7.30-10.30 & 3.30-8.30
Wed	7.30-9 & 2-7.30	9-3	*2-11	*2-11	7.30-9 & 2-7.30	9-3	9-3	*2-11	7.30-9 & 2-7.30
Thurs	7.30-11 & 3.30-9	OFF	7.30-9 & 3-8.30	7.30-9 & 3-8.30	7.30-11 & 3.30-9	OFF	OFF	7.30-9 & 3-8.30	7.30-11 & 3.30-9
Frid	1-9	OFF	7.30-11 & 3.30-8	7.30-11 & 3.30-8	1-9	OFF	OFF	7.30-11 & 3.30-8	1-9

* To facilitate staff meeting

APPENDIX B

<u>Group C</u>	M1	M2	M3	M1	M2	M3	M1	M2	M3
Sat	OFF	8-4	2-10	2-10	OFF	8-4	8-4	2-10	OFF
Sun	OFF	2-10	8-4	8-4	OFF	2-10	2-10	8-4	OFF
Mon	2-10	7.30-10.30 & 3.30-8.30	OFF	OFF	2-10	7.30-10.30 & 3.30-8.30	7.30-10.30 & 3.30-8.30	OFF	2-10
Tue	7.30-9 & 2-8.30	7.30-9.30 & 4-10	OFF	OFF	7.30-9 & 2-8.30	7.30-9.30 & 4-10	7.30-9.30 & 4-10	OFF	7.30-9 & 2-8.30
Wed	7.30-9.30 & 4-10	7.30-9 & 2-8.30	College	2-10	7.30-10.30 & 3.30-8.30	College	7.30-2.30	2-10	College
Thurs	7.30-9 & 2-8.30	OFF	7.30-9.30 & 4-10	7.30-9.30 & 4-10	7.30-9 & 2-8.30	OFF	OFF	7.30-9 & 2-8.30	7.30-9.30 & 4-10
Frid	7.30-9.30 & 4-11	OFF	7.30-9 & 2-8.30	7.30-9 & 2-8.30	7.30-9.30 & 4-10	OFF	OFF	7.30-9.30 & 4-10	7.30-9 & 2-8.30

PRIVATE

two lived in the group. I was her personal secretary in Nazareth Lodge. **NL 53** was smoking and she was in the bedroom next to me. Sister **SR 30** made her smoke the whole packet. I could hear it all "dreadful". When she first came there were 2 large dorms. One for boys and one for girls and she had a 3 door room between the two. If the boys were talking she came in said turn over and take your pyjamas down and scalped our backsides one by one.

27. I got a few beatings for absolutely nothing. I have described them, yet I felt bad I had disappointed her. I was 100% innocent on these 2 occasions. She left the group and was a school teacher who wanted the principal's job. She went to [REDACTED] and got that when I left. She dumped her group of children and two bad nuns who came tortured and beat me until I was conned into going to De La Salle Boys Home.

28. I ran away twice once to Bangor, and the other with **DL 31** and **DL 20** **DL 20** When **SR 30** moved downstairs out of the group, life was hell then with **SR 156** and **SR 46** **DL 20** suggested we could go to a relative who was a policeman and lived in Warrenpoint, we got there by thumbing lifts and stayed with each other in an old flat he knew and went round to his relatives who gave us a meal then phoned her husband who came round took us to the police station and beat the crap out of me and threatened us never to run away again. The social services took us back to the home and **SR 30** **SR 156** and **SR 46** gave us another hiding in the front parlour.

29. **SR 156** and **SR 46** were there names (horrible). Hell awaited me in De La Salle Boys Home.

30. **SR 30** contacted me a couple of years ago. I know she lied to the police but did know of the abuse of Father Brendan Smyth, as she told the staff never to allow anyone into our group. She told me she disliked him. She sent children