

Inspection report for children's home

Unique reference number	SC025940
Inspector	Sandra Jacobs-Walls
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home

Registered person	Barnardo's
Registered person address	Barnardos, Head Office Tanners Lane, Barkingside ILFORD Essex IG6 1QG
Responsible individual	Suzanne Jane Turner-Jones
Registered manager	Lucellta Wallace-Esnard
Date of last inspection	21/01/2015

Inspection date	16/03/2015
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Previous inspection	not judged
Enforcement action since last inspection	None

This inspection

This home was judged good at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection the home was '**not judged**'.

At the time of this inspection there were no children or young people in placement at the home. Therefore this inspection focuses on whether the children's home meets its statutory requirements in order to maintain its registration and is ready to accept placements. As a result no judgment is made.

The service has been temporarily closed since July 2014 in order for major building works to be completed. This work on the home's premises has since been completed and as a result the home, at maximum, is able to accommodate six children or young people as opposed to the former four. This variation to the home's previous registration condition has been approved by Ofsted.

During the inspection, a tour of the premises was undertaken. There have been significant alterations made to the building since young people were last living at the home. Changes include the construction of the two additional bedrooms, the relocation and flitting of a new kitchen and newly constructed staff designated space. The entire building has been redecorated, making the environment and fabric of the building homely, comfortable and pleasant.

During the home's temporary closure staff have undertaken a programme of intense training. Much of the focus of this training has been the field of social pedagogy. This approach now shapes the ethos and care practices of the service. In addition, staff have also receive a range of other relevant training. This training includes a focus on safeguarding, child sexual exploitation; training focused on clinical psychology, health and safety and equal opportunities training. Staff have access to on-line courses and workshops facilitated by the host Local Safeguarding Children's Board. Staff have completed as a group, training in physical intervention. The registered Manager indicates that further staff training is scheduled for the near future. This includes training on the management of complaints, countering bullying,

and Makaton training. A specialist workshop on autism has been scheduled for October.

The staff team are appreciative of the level and nature of training provided by the organisation and have embraced the home's newly developed therapeutic approach to care. Staff support and supervision is consistent and meaningful; they indicate that the organisation is a supportive and fair employer. There are effective financial and administrative systems in place.

Regulation 33 monitoring visits are consistently conducted and subsequent reports are forwarded to Ofsted as required. Similarly, Regulation 34, quality of care reports are produced and forwarded to Ofsted in compliance with the Regulations. The home's statement of purpose has been revised to reflect changes to the service and the children's guide is an informative, creative summary available symbolically and in the written word for young people's easy access to key information.

Managers and staff demonstrate a keen commitment to offering improved service provision. There are no unresolved issues outstanding from the previous inspection. The service has re-open and is well prepared to accept appropriate referrals for placements.

Information about this children's home

This home is one of a small number of residential services run by a voluntary organisation. The purpose of the home is to provide long-term care and support for a maximum of four children or young people with severe learning and/ or physical disabilities.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
21/01/2015	Interim	not judged
14/01/2014	Interim	inadequate progress
04/06/2013	Full	good
28/01/2013	Interim	satisfactory progress

What inspection judgements mean

At the interim inspections we make a judgement on whether the home has improved in effectiveness, sustained effectiveness, or declined in effectiveness since the previous full inspection. This is in line with the *Inspection of children's homes: framework for inspection*.

Information 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 framework of inspection for children's homes.