

SC393567

Priory Education Services Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned by a private company. Its statement of purpose specifies that it provides care and accommodation for up to five children and young people, aged between nine and 18.

The manager was registered with Ofsted on 24 January 2017.

Inspection date: 27 January 2021

This monitoring visit

This monitoring visit was undertaken to provide reassurance to the regulator about the effectiveness of the management arrangements in the home during the registered manager's extended period of leave. It also looked at her transition back to full-time day-to-day management of the home following the extended leave.

The assistant manager was registered with Ofsted as the interim manager during this time.

This was a virtual monitoring inspection because of COVID-19 (coronavirus) restrictions, and no site visit to the home took place.

The registered manager's extended absence has had no negative impact on the day-to-day running of the home or on the outcomes for the children, who continue to make very good progress. The staff, children, senior leaders and professionals who were spoken to all commented positively about the cover arrangements, and the standard of management that was successfully maintained by the interim manager.

The registered manager and assistant manager have worked together for many years; they work very closely and share the same values and aspirations. They demonstrate a commitment to ensuring that the home provides a high standard of care and maintains a sharp focus on keeping children safe. This respectful, professional working relationship has been an important aspect of the smooth

running of the home during the registered manager's extended leave, and in promoting a smooth transition when she returned.

Feedback about how well the interim registered manager managed the home is highly positive. This includes feedback on the effectiveness of the day-to-day running of the home, in particular around the emergence of COVID-19, the referral and arrival of a new child to the home, safeguarding incidents and incidents relating to the staff.

During her time as the registered manager, the interim manager received good levels of support from senior leaders and other registered managers in the organisation. In addition, the staff team at the home fully supported the interim registered manager.

The interim registered manager dealt with safeguarding incidents effectively. She made appropriate referrals to a range of agencies, including the multi-agency safeguarding hubs, the designated officer, the police and youth offending teams. The very good standard of recording in well-maintained chronologies ensures that all professionals involved are up to date, including the regulator.

Children are happy in this home and spoke positively about the staff, and about how well they are cared for and the progress they continue to make, especially with their education and the challenges COVID-19 presents.

The registered manager has returned to her role and both she and the assistant manager have resumed their respective roles and responsibilities.

There were no requirements made at the last inspection and no requirements or recommendations made as a result of this monitoring visit.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
03/09/2019	Full	Outstanding
06/06/2018	Full	Good
05/07/2017	Full	Good
17/01/2017	Interim	Declined in effectiveness

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the children's home since its last Ofsted inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC393567

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Priory Education Services Limited

Registered provider address: Priory Group, 80 Hammersmith Road, London W14 8UD

Responsible individual: Robert Page

Registered manager: Geraldine Hicks

Inspectors

Liz Driver, social care inspector

Helen Simmons, social care inspector

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