

Inspection report for children's home

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|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Unique reference number</b> | SC407787        |
| <b>Inspector</b>               | Bridget Goddard |
| <b>Type of inspection</b>      | Interim         |
| <b>Provision subtype</b>       | Children's home |

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|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Registered person</b>         | Priory Education Services Ltd                |
| <b>Registered person address</b> | 5th Floor 80 Hammersmith Road London W14 8UD |
| <b>Responsible individual</b>    | Helen Sharpe                                 |
| <b>Registered manager</b>        | POST VACANT                                  |
| <b>Date of last inspection</b>   | 05/08/2014                                   |

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| <b>Inspection date</b> | 09/12/2014 |
|------------------------|------------|

|                                          |          |
|------------------------------------------|----------|
| Previous inspection                      | adequate |
| Enforcement action since last inspection | none     |

## This inspection

This home was judged adequate at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judge that it has **improved effectiveness**.

This is generally a stable home, and there has been no movement of young people in or out since the last inspection, although there has been a change to the home manager and other staff. The manager has started the process to become a Registered Manager. The home does not have a full staff team, but recruitment is underway and the staffing shortfall is currently being met appropriately by existing staff, and those in the wider organisation. This maintains a level of consistency for young people.

Young people make good progress in this home across various areas of activity. For example, some now have increased independence skills, and others are better able to self-regulate which means they have fewer behavioural interventions from staff. This means that young people are learning valuable skills which will help them in adult life. In addition, parents and young people are positive about the quality of care offered in this home.

At the last inspection the home received two requirements and four recommendations. The home has successfully met all of these.

The first requirement related to ensuring safeguarding policies were up to date and accessible. The manager has met this well. He has dedicated a part of the office to safeguarding information, and has met with the local authority dedicated officer at the home and looked at safeguarding processes. In addition, the home has been proactive in seeking advice about internet safety for young people.

The second requirement and a further recommendation, related to ensuring that restraint was solely used in accordance with regulations. Key staff are appropriately knowledgeable about when restraint may be used, and records demonstrate this is the case in practice.

The remaining three recommendations have been well-met. Refurbishment is underway in the home. Bathrooms have been upgraded and some institutional elements have been removed. Young people have been involved in choosing paint and wallpaper and some rooms are newly decorated. Work is still ongoing, but overall the home is now more homely. The second outstanding recommendation related to young people having their views recorded following the imposition of disciplinary measures. This is evident in all appropriate documents. The final recommendation related to the monitoring of patterns and trends. The manager has developed a system for such monitoring which has already positively informed young people's support plan.

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

## Information about this children's home

This home is an independent residential home that cares for up to six young people who may have behavioural, emotional and social difficulties.

## Recent inspection history

| Inspection date | Inspection type | Inspection judgement  |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 05/08/2014      | Full            | adequate              |
| 22/10/2013      | Interim         | satisfactory progress |
| 21/05/2013      | Full            | adequate              |
| 09/01/2013      | Full            | adequate              |

## **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.