

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	16/02/2017
Unique reference number	SC412979
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	Priory New Education Services Limited 07221650
Registered provider address	80 Hammersmith Road, London, W14 8UD

Responsible individual	Katherine Bridon
Registered manager	Mary Marsh
Inspector	Graham Robinson

Previous Inspection date	08/08/2016
Previous inspection judgement	Good
Enforcement action since last inspection	None
This inspection	
The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection This home was judged good at the full inspection. At this interim inspection Ofsted judges that it has improved effectiveness. The home has maintained the high standards of care noted at the full inspection. Since then, measurable progress has been made. For example, the young people living in the home continue to make significant progress in all areas of their lives. Each young person is well settled into a stable, long-term placement. This is a home where disability is not seen as a barrier to young people living a fulfilling and rewarding lifestyle. For example, after careful preparation and assessment of the risks involved, one young person was recently taken on a sailing trip, which was a new experience that he thoroughly enjoyed. Vulnerable young people with complex needs live happily and thrive in a home where they are kept safe. Managers and staff have the knowledge and experience to understand how autistic spectrum disorder affects the individuals who are in their care. Aspirations for young people are high and this is reflected in the detailed and regularly updated plans and strategies, such as the ambitious transition plans that are in place for one young person. The home provides young people who have severe autistic spectrum disorder with structure and routines that they are comfortable with. Routines are individualised to meet specific need. Despite the fact that most young people have hardly any verbal skills or none at all, the amount of interaction and the levels of ongoing communication between staff and young people are high. This enables ongoing dialogue in various forms to take place, which allows young people to make choices and express their opinions. Behaviour is well managed in a non-punitive environment. Staff have the skills, knowledge, confidence and ability to manage behaviour through their understanding of behaviour traits that are linked with autistic spectrum disorder. As a result, sanctions and punishments do not occur and the number of incidents that have required physical intervention has decreased significantly since the previous inspection. Interaction between staff and young people was observed as being warm and	

caring. A happy and cheery atmosphere, punctuated with laughter, was apparent throughout the visit. This is a reflection of the positive and trusting relationships that have been built up between staff and young people.

Despite the fact that these young people can be quite destructive and can cause damage to the fabric of the building, repairs are usually carried out quickly. A full tour of the premises showed the overall state of repair and the condition of fixtures, fittings, decor, furnishings and equipment to be of a good standard. There have been a number of improvements made since the previous inspection, such as areas where redecoration has taken place and the laying of a new carpet on the stairs and landing. Clear plans are in place for continued improvement.

Young people benefit from having a stable, trained and relatively experienced staff team looking after them. As there have been few changes to the home's staffing since the previous inspection, the core of the staff team has remained intact. Although the home is not yet fully staffed, work is ongoing to achieve this and the need for agency staff has reduced significantly. As a result, the continuity of care that is being experienced by young people is good.

The monitoring of the home both internally and externally meets with statutory requirements. Active programmes of staff supervision, appraisal and training address the professional development of staff and ensure that they retain and develop new skills in order to meet the ever-changing needs of the young people who are in their care.

The home has a good record of compliance and has fully addressed the one requirement made at the previous inspection. This had led to improvements in the procedures that are in place for storing, administering and recording medication. These are now fully embedded into the daily practices that have been adopted by the home.

This was a positive visit and the home continues to move forward and progress. This is reflected in the revised development plan that was recently drawn up. Young people's needs are being well met as they all continue to progress in all areas of their lives. This report contains no new requirements or recommendations.

Information about this children's home

This children's home is operated by a private organisation and is registered to care for up to four young people. The home provides residential and respite care for young people who have learning disabilities.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
09/08/2016	Full	Good
30/12/2015	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
15/07/2015	Full	Good
24/02/2015	Interim	Improved effectiveness

What the inspection judgements mean

At the interim inspection 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

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people living in the children's home. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the difference that adults make to the lives of children and young people. They read case files, watched how professional staff work with children, young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care given to children and young people. Wherever possible, they talked to children, young people and their families. In addition the inspectors have tried to understand what the children's home knows about how well it is performing, how well it is doing and what difference it is making for the children and young people who it is trying to help, protect and look after.

This inspection focused on the effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection.

This 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 Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards'.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, workbased learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It inspects services for children looked after and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2017