

Inspection report for children's home

---

<b>Unique reference number</b>	SC062079
<b>Inspection date</b>	07/03/2013
<b>Inspector</b>	Liz Driver
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Interim
<b>Provision subtype</b>	Residential special school (>295 days/year)

---

<b>Date of last inspection</b>	16/11/2012
--------------------------------	------------

---

© Crown copyright 2013

Website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

This document may be reproduced in whole or in part for non-commercial educational purposes, provided that the information quoted is reproduced without adaptation and the source and date of publication are stated.

## Service information

### Brief description of the service

This home forms part of the services provided by The Children's Trust. The Children's Trust provides holistic services for children with multiple disabilities and complex health needs and those with acquired brain injury who require rehabilitation.

The school provides 52-week placements for learners and is, therefore, registered as a children's home. This is in addition to being registered with the Department for Education as a non-maintained school for children with profound and multiple learning difficulties with an age range between five to 25 years.

The school has 44 educational placements. The registered children's home accommodates 33 pupils, in single or twin bedrooms. The residential accommodation comprises three separate houses. At the time of this inspection there were 31 residential learners, of which 14 were over the age of 19 years old.

### The inspection judgements and what they mean

<b>Good progress</b>	The children's home has demonstrated continued improvement in quality of care and outcomes for children and young people and where appropriate has addressed all requirements and the large majority of recommendations that were raised at the previous inspection.
<b>Satisfactory progress</b>	The children's home has maintained quality of care and outcomes for children and young people and where appropriate has addressed all requirements and the majority of recommendations that were raised at the previous inspection.
<b>Inadequate progress</b>	The children's home has failed to address one or more requirements and/or has not met the majority of recommendations and/or the quality of care and outcomes for children and young people have declined since the last full inspection.

## Progress

Since their previous inspection the service is judged to be making **good progress**.

At the last inspection in November 2012, the home was judged to be outstanding overall. No requirements or recommendations were made.

This service continues to operate at an extremely high level with recognition nationally and internationally of the expertise it offers and delivers. Since the last inspection the previous head of care has successfully completed the registration process with Ofsted and is now the Registered Manager for the residential side of the

service. Together with the head teacher and deputy head teacher an ambitious and exciting improvement plan has been developed that will further enhance the provision for children and young people. The largest improvement will be the new build of the school site which has recently been agreed by the board of governors.

Since the last inspection the residential houses have been subject to continued development; upgrading of a sensory room which is much used by children, the improvement to storage facilities to ensure health and safety concerns are alleviated in regards to storing the numerous pieces of equipment children need.

Fire risk assessment formats have been reviewed and enhanced and as a result highlight any risk even better than before. Individual fire risk assessments for children and young people have also been reviewed and enhanced and now provide clearer information for staff to use. Fire evacuation drills now take place monthly in each house and termly in the school. The head of health and safety carries out a fire audit at six monthly intervals. Overall this increases the safety of all the children and young people.

Phase one of the upgrading of external walkways around the site has been completed and provides a more child friendly and more visually and sensory stimulating environment for children and young people when moving around the site.

Development of security has been enhanced with confirmation of the introduction of finger print technology being implemented in the very near future. This will provide enhanced security and safeguarding for children and young people.

Good progress has been made regarding medication prescribing and the complexities this entails for children and young people at this service. Following much work carried out by the Registered Manager through discussions with the lead local pharmacist for Surrey NHS Trust and two local general practitioner centres, an agreement has been met. Due to be implemented in the very near future, this will further enhance the safe prescribing of medication and lessen the incidence of any medication errors occurring.

Technology development is an area the service is moving forward with quickly. The service is working collaboratively with experts in the field so that technology such as Eye-Gaze and software specific for the children and young people at this service will be introduced shortly.

Great importance continues to be placed on child protection and safeguarding with experienced and knowledgeable social workers on site who provide expertise and training to staff. The service's current child protection and safeguarding policy is currently being reviewed to ensure it continues to be up to date with local area procedures.

Staff report that communication between school and the residential side has improved with plans to integrate the two staff teams further. Plans to recruit a nurse and health care assistant in the school will further enhance communication with

house staff.

Parent feedback about transitions was extremely positive specifically in relation to the communication between professionals involved in children and young people's lives. As a result children and young people experience smooth transitions and parents know their child's care needs are catered for and understood.

Due to the increasing medical needs of children and young people at the setting the Registered Manager is currently considering if they also need to be registered with The Care Quality Commission, as a joint registration with Ofsted.

## 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 progress made by the provider since the last full inspection, identifies any further strengths, any areas for improvement and makes judgements as outlined in the *Inspection of children's homes – framework for inspection*.