

Inspection report for children's home

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	SC429702
<b>Inspector</b>	Joanna Heller
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Interim
<b>Provision subtype</b>	

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<b>Registered person</b>	The Ryes College Limited
<b>Registered person address</b>	Aldham Business Centre, New Road Aldham COLCHESTER CO6 3PN
<b>Responsible individual</b>	Katherine Ann Yarbo
<b>Registered manager</b>	Sharon Alexandria Broadley
<b>Date of last inspection</b>	18/03/2014

<b>Inspection date</b>	10/06/2014
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Previous inspection	good
Enforcement action since last inspection	none

## This inspection

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

At the last inspection in March the home was judged as good and two requirements and one recommendation were set. These related to the quality of care review reports, maintenance of the building and supervision of staff. The manager has ensured that both requirements and the recommendation from the last inspection have been met.

This home benefits from clear leadership and management from a suitably qualified and experienced manager. There have been few changes to staff and management over the past two years, providing continuity for young people.

The building is now maintained to a suitable standard and repairs have taken place to the patio and driveway, ensuring that health and safety standards are met. Further plans to enhance the quality of these areas are in place. The lounge and dining room provide a warm and welcoming place for young people to relax. Photographs of young people and their artwork are displayed throughout, so young people are able to feel that staff are proud of them and their creations.

Quality of care reviews for the home take place regularly and are of a suitable standard, accurately describing the quality of care and conduct of the home. This means that managers of the organisation have good oversight of the home.

Since the last inspection the manager has improved the regularity of individual staff supervision arrangements. Staff now benefit from discussions and support through regular supervision and team meetings. Placing authorities comment on the quality and competence of staff who work well in partnership with other agencies.

Placements are well planned amongst the staff team as a whole, which means that staff have good awareness of young people's needs prior to admission and the risk

of placement breakdown is minimised. Staff use reflective practice and try to understand the young person's point of view and experiences. Staff maintain a commitment to equality and diversity through ensuring young people's individual needs are met. Team meetings are used as an opportunity for learning and development which further embeds staff knowledge and skills.

Young people continue to benefit from individualised high-quality care. Placing authorities and schools comment on the strong individual progress that young people continue to make. Comments include 'the home has done very well with this child', 'This has been a really good placement he enjoys being at the home and feels safe, and 'it's a nurturing placement'. Staff and young people enjoy positive relationships, and routines such as reading together at bedtime help young people feel nurtured and promote improved educational outcomes.

Young people are making good progress in their education from their starting points and all have excellent attendance records. Young people are healthy and are encouraged to live healthy lifestyles. Young people enjoy a varied programme of activities which help them develop personal life skills. Routines within the home support young people's well-being and development. Effective risk management means that young people have opportunities to further their personal interests through opportunities such as building sheds and using tools.

Staff maintain clear and consistent boundaries which enable young people to feel safe and secure. Behaviour is well managed, young people are praised for positive behaviour and helped to reflect on the impact of negative behaviour. Young people are clear on the boundaries within the home and the consequences if these are breached. Staff are clear on the thresholds for restraint and use this only when young people present a risk to themselves or others. Staff are vigilant for conflict within the group and are proactive at addressing this when it occurs.

## Information about this children's home

This children's home is one of a small group of homes which are privately owned. The organisation also operates two schools. This home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to four children of either gender. The home offers care and accommodation for children who have emotional and behavioural difficulties.

## Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
18/03/2014	Full	good
10/07/2013	Interim	satisfactory progress
11/03/2013	Full	good
07/08/2012	Interim	good 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.