

# 1241785

Registered provider: The Priory Group

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## Information about this children's home

The home is privately owned and run by an education specialist service provider. It is registered to care for up to 11 children who have learning disabilities and complex needs that may include autism spectrum disorder and associated difficulties. The home is located within the provider's school campus, which the children currently living at the home attend.

The manager was registered with Ofsted in July 2018.

**Inspection date:** 20 February 2019

**Judgement at last inspection:** requires improvement to be good

**Date of last inspection:** 16 July 2018

**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 requires improvement to be good at the last full inspection. At the interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has improved effectiveness.

The home has made significant progress since the last inspection, carried out in July 2018. The young people are making very good progress across many areas of their lives. The home provides a more stable environment for young people to thrive. The management of the home is more effective as there is now a registered manager in post.

The five requirements and two recommendations made at the last inspection have been met.

The young people now have more ways that they can express their views, wishes and feelings. These include weekly house meetings, key-working sessions and a 'moans and grumbles' form to complete. The registered manager takes seriously any concerns

raised. In addition, the independent monthly visitor provides a listening ear, and the company's anti-bullying officer's contact details are on display in the home. The young people were seen to be very confident in expressing their views during this inspection.

The young people are settled, appear happy and are making very good progress. All achieve exceptionally high attendance levels at the school. The home's life skills and independence programme continues to be an area for development. There is a commitment to ensuring that it is bespoke to each individual young person.

The registered manager also identified areas that needed to be improved, and recognised that changes needed to be made to ensure compatibility of the young people, and to ensure that the young people feel safe in their home. The manager's ability to review and reflect on placements and their suitability has resulted in some young people moving on to more appropriate placements. The young people currently living in the home are very suitably placed.

Each young person is assessed in relation to their risk of harm, taking into account information in their relevant plans. The young people are helped to understand how to keep safe through key-working sessions and constant guidance. The staff take effective action when there are concerns, making appropriate referrals to safeguarding agencies if necessary.

Staffing is now more stable. Recruitment of new staff has taken place and staff morale has improved. The staff receive more regular supervision by a person with appropriate experience. The registered manager has an improved oversight of records relating to incidents and both she and her deputy will challenge staff if recording is less than satisfactory. The quality of care provided to the young people has improved and the atmosphere is calmer.

The registered manager has updated the home's location risk assessment, so it includes the risk areas relating to children going missing and issues arising from the presence of other children's homes nearby. Although there has been a significant decrease in the number of missing incidents, the registered manager is aware of the need to retain evidence that an independent return interview has been requested, and taken place, and whether staff have responded to the outcome of this interview.

The home needs redecoration and some new furnishings. This has been identified by the manager and forms part of the home's development plan. A programme of redecoration has begun. The areas already completed provide a much-improved living environment.

The registered manager has reviewed all aspects of the home and has a robust development plan to improve the service. She is fully supported by the responsible individual and the company's internal quality assurance team. It is an ongoing plan, with areas still being addressed. The registered manager has suitable leadership and management qualifications, in addition to safeguarding qualifications. She has much experience of working with children and young adults with autistic spectrum disorder and learning disabilities.

There are no requirements or recommendations made at this inspection. All areas in need of action have been identified in the home's action plan and are being very suitably addressed. Some areas need more time to embed and will be looked at again during the next inspection.

## Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
16/07/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be good
15/01/2018	Interim	Declined in effectiveness
25/07/2017	Full	Requires improvement to be good

## Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the differences made to the lives of children and young people. They watched how professional staff work with children and young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care provided. Wherever possible, they talked to children and 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 whom 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.

Using the 'Social care common inspection framework', this inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service, how it meets the core functions of the service as set out in legislation, 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'.

## Children's home details

**Unique reference number:** 1241785

**Provision sub-type:** Children's home

**Registered provider:** The Priory Group

**Registered provider address:** Priory Education Services Limited, 80 Hammersmith Road, London W14 8UD

**Responsible individual:** Hannah Cox

**Registered manager:** Lorraine Sadler

## Inspector

Liz Driver, social care inspector

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, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding 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 1231, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto: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 <http://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](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk).

This publication is available at <http://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](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: <http://www.gov.uk/ofsted>

© Crown copyright 2019