care

# 1211772

**Priory Education Services Limited** 

Monitoring visit
Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

### Information about this children's home

The home provides care for up to six children who may have social, emotional and behavioural difficulties. It is owned and operated by a private provider.

The manager registered with Ofsted in November 2020.

**Inspection date:** 3 March 2021

# This monitoring visit

Ofsted has paused assurance visits at this time because of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. This monitoring visit was carried out in response to concerns raised through safeguarding notifications. These were regarding how staff manage children's behaviours. Ofsted also considered the effectiveness of the registered manager's oversight of the children's risk assessments. The home was last inspected in October 2019.

The monitoring visit comprised of on- and off-site inspection activities. These included face-to-face discussions with children, staff and managers and the remote review of children's case records and other relevant documents. Ofsted did not identify any regulatory breaches or concerns as a result of this visit.

Children are making good progress. All children currently attend school and they have continued to engage in education throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. One child said, 'My independence skills are improving as I know how to cook now.' Children said that they like living at the home and that they feel safe. One child said, 'It's like a little family here.' As a result, children grow in confidence.

When the actions or behaviours of some children impact negatively on other children, the staff are quick to respond. They ensure that they follow the strategies detailed in children's support plans and use their positive relationships with children to defuse potential incidents.

The children's risk assessments are effective. This is because the registered manager regularly reviews and updates these documents following all significant incidents. Consequently, these reflect children's individual needs and circumstances. The

children respond positively to the strategies in place to keep them safe. As a result, risks to children's safety continue to reduce.

There have been occasions when some children have gone missing from the home. The staff respond by searching local areas and visiting places where children are known to go to. The registered manager works in partnership with the local police to ensure that children are quickly and safely located. As a result, incidents of children going missing from the home are reducing.

The registered manager has a good understanding of children's individual needs. She works in partnership with external agencies, including children's social workers, to ensure that they access the help and support that they need. Consequently, children make progress in all areas of their development.

Staff benefit from regular supervision. This encourages them to reflect on their practice. The registered manager makes sure that staff training is up to date and that this training meets children's needs. As a result, children work with staff that are supported in their role.

# **Recent inspection history**

| Inspection date | Inspection type | Inspection judgement |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 15/10/2019      | Full            | Outstanding          |
| 26/02/2019      | Full            | Good                 |
| 08/08/2017      | Full            | Good                 |
| 08/12/2016      | Full            | Good                 |

## Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the children's home since its last Ofsted inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

#### Children's home details

**Unique reference number:** 1211772

Registered provider: Priory Education Services Limited

Registered provider address: Fifth Floor, 80 Hammersmith Road, London W14

8UD

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Responsible individual: Kerry Maynard

Registered manager: Rachel Ridley

### **Inspectors**

Gemma McDonnell, Social Care Inspector Jamie Richardson, 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 children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

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