

Treloar School

London Road, Holybourne, Alton, Hampshire GU34 4GL

Residential provision inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this residential special school

Treloar School is a non-maintained residential special school for children with physical disabilities.

The school offers residential accommodation for children and young people aged between 11 and 25 years of age.

At the time of the inspection, 18 children were accessing the residential provision.

The inspector only inspected the social care provision at this school.

Inspection dates: 7 to 9 February 2023

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	outstanding
---	--------------------

How well children and young people are helped and protected	outstanding
---	-------------

The effectiveness of leaders and managers	outstanding
---	-------------

The residential special school provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good. The actions of the school contribute to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for children and young people.

Date of previous inspection: 8 March 2022

Overall judgement at last inspection: outstanding

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: outstanding

Children are being looked after by staff who are genuinely committed to improving their life chances. This makes children feel valued and secure, which enables them to make exceptional progress.

Children benefit from having access to a highly effective multi-disciplinary team, which includes health professionals, therapists, teachers and care staff. Together, they find innovative ways to help children to overcome the challenges that they face. Well-informed assessments lead to detailed care and support plans, and these are regularly reviewed with input from the children and their parents.

There is a deep-rooted ethos of treating children with dignity and respect. This extends to all aspects of their care, including assistance with daily living and help to express how they are feeling. The staff team's deep understanding of the importance of sensitive, individualised support for the children is impressive.

A skilled healthcare team is focused on improving health outcomes for children. Healthcare professionals provide expert input into children's plans. They also provide good-quality training to the residential staff to ensure that they can competently carry out delegated health tasks.

Children's success is recognised and celebrated. One child has introduced the mantra, 'live your best life'. Staff promote this and go to great lengths to help children to achieve the goals that are important to them. Examples of remarkable achievements include a child who has represented the school in a swimming gala, and another child who has played boccia for Great Britain.

Many children go on to live independently and attend college or university when they leave the school, others are successful in achieving their aspirations of moving into supported living or small group living environments. Staff play a key role in promoting diversity. They advocate strongly for children to ensure that they can access the support and resources that they need.

Staff stay in contact with children when they leave the school. This gives children a sense of the importance of building and maintaining meaningful, trusting relationships.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: outstanding

There is a culture of openness, which contributes to children's safety and their sense of security. The protocol for reporting safeguarding concerns is used to excellent effect. Incidents are reported to external safeguarding professionals without delay.

Residential staff undergo intensive training to ensure that they are competent in all aspects of the medication administration process. Record-keeping arrangements for medicines are excellent. Managers complete regular medication audits. These measures reduce the risk of medication errors.

Staff are adept at noticing changes in children's presentation and behaviour. They recognise that those changes may indicate that children need additional help and advice, for example, from the school counselling service.

Children have control of their own electric wheelchairs, so any incidents of staff physically redirecting a child in a wheelchair are considered as physical restraint. Each incident is reviewed to check that the intervention is appropriate and proportionate. Children and staff are involved in the review. Learning is used to identify ways to reduce the risk of further incidents occurring.

Safer recruitment practices are understood and implemented effectively. All necessary checks are in place to ensure that children are protected from unsuitable people working in the school.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: outstanding

Leaders are fully involved in the children's lives. They are very clear about the progress that they are making and have high aspirations for what they can achieve. They work closely with other professionals and take effective action if plans need to change. Children are flourishing as a result.

Leaders ensure that residential staff receive extensive training, which equips them to meet the specific needs of the children who they are looking after.

Residential staff speak very highly of the support that they receive from managers. Retention rates and staff morale are high. Feeling valued and respected enables staff to give high-quality care to children.

Leaders ensure that their learning is shared widely, including at specialist conventions, public speeches, and parents' groups. This enables children from both within and outside the school to benefit from innovative practice, particularly in relation to the use of technology to enhance the quality of care that children receive.

Leaders' oversight and scrutiny of the home are extremely thorough. As a result, they have an exceptionally well-rounded view of the experiences of the children and the impact that the care is having on their outcomes. There is an embedded culture of welcoming feedback from external sources. When a recent fire survey highlighted some shortfalls, leaders took swift and decisive action to ensure the safety of children.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people using the social care common inspection framework. This inspection was carried out under the Children Act 1989 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 national minimum standards.

Residential special school details

Social care unique reference number: SC012024

Headteacher/teacher in charge: Martin Ingram

Type of school: Residential Special School

Telephone number: 01420 547400

Email address: Martin.ingram@treloar.org.uk

Inspector

Matt Nicholls, 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.

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.

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 <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

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 4234
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2023