

# Kisimul School, Acacia Hall

Inspection report for children's home

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	SC044562
<b>Inspection date</b>	07/02/2014
<b>Inspector</b>	Judith Longden
<b>Type of inspection</b>	Interim
<b>Provision subtype</b>	Residential special school (>295 days/year)

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<b>Setting address</b>	Shortwood Lane, Friesthorpe, Lincolnshire, LN3 5AL
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<b>Registered manager</b>	Joanne Laughton
<b>Responsible individual</b>	Tjerk De Haan
<b>Date of last inspection</b>	24/07/2013

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## Service information

### Brief description of the service

This school, registered as a children's home, is one of three owned by the same private company. It provides placements of various lengths for children and young people with severe learning disabilities, autism and challenging behaviour.

The school provides residential accommodation for 39 young people. Education is provided in a separate building situated on site.

### 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**.

This home was judged as outstanding at the last full inspection in July 2013. Since that time the home has demonstrated continued improvement in the quality of care and the outcomes for young people. The home has addressed and met the recommendation made at the previous inspection. A recommendation was made in respect of updating the home's procedure for handling allegations and suspicions of harm in line with Government guidance and requirements. This has been revised and provides clear guidance for staff on reporting concerns. As a result the safety and welfare of young people has improved.

In 2013 the home opened a new building on site offering accommodation for a small group of young people to prepare them for independence. This has proved very successful and young people have developed new skills and improved their behaviour since living in this home. One member of staff said, 'young people are blossoming.' The success of this venture has prompted the provider to redevelop the main

building into smaller 'homes' contained within the main house to mirror the layout and provision of rooms of the other building. The home improvement plans are very detailed and the work has been risk assessed to ensure young people are kept safe and that disruption is minimised.

Young people continue to make excellent progress in all areas. In addition to improving their independence skills they are enjoying a range of activities in the home and community. These include sailing trips which provide exciting new challenges for young people. The home has a holistic approach to caring for the health needs of young people, and this includes the use of regular aroma therapy to enable young people to relax. This improves their emotional well-being.

Staff are motivated and excited by the changes to the home and can identify the progress young people make. Staff are supported by a strong management team. Monitoring of the home continues to be robust and the manager ensures any identified shortfalls are addressed in a timely manner. The home also has a quality assurance team who scrutinise the practice of the home and report to the board of directors, this ensures the home is fully accountable for the service provided.

Staff and young people have been consulted on the home improvement plans and the care improvement plans. This means young people are involved in the development of the home and their care.

No requirements or recommendations are made as a result of this inspection.

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## 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*.