

# 2594875

Registered provider: The Beeches UK Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## Information about this children's home

This privately owned home provides care for up to four children with a diagnosed learning disability.

The manager registered with Ofsted in March 2021.

Due to COVID-19 (coronavirus), at the request of the Secretary of State, we suspended all routine inspections of social care providers on 17 March 2020.

We last visited this setting on 14 October 2020 to carry out an assurance visit. The report is published on the Ofsted website.

### Inspection dates: 10 to 11 August 2021

**Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account**      **good**

How well children and young people are helped and protected      good

The effectiveness of leaders and managers      good

The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

**Date of last inspection:** not applicable

**Overall judgement at last inspection:** not applicable

**Enforcement action since last inspection:** not applicable

## Inspection judgements

### **Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good**

The manager and the staff fully support the children's progress and care about the children. This is reflected in the nurturing relationships that staff have with children. Staff use positive reinforcement to reward children for good behaviour and achievements. The children feel cared for and valued. One child said, 'The home is fantastic. The best thing about living here is the relationships with the staff, they are wonderful.'

Staff support children at school to engage with education. The children have specialist education places. Two children were not engaging with education before living at the home and are now making progress. Staff are sensitive to children's individual needs and are aware of barriers that reduce children's ability to learn. The staff's understanding and support enable children to learn at a pace that is appropriate to them.

The manager and the staff understand the importance of children having positive time with their families. Staff manage sensitive situations very well to help children to spend time with their families in difficult circumstances. Staff give good support to encourage the relationships that are important to the children.

Staff encourage children to try new activities, including canoeing, climbing, ice skating and rollerblading. One child sings and records his own songs at a music studio. Children benefit from experiences that enable them to develop their interests and skills.

The home is spacious and nicely decorated and the children's bedrooms are personalised. The atmosphere is homely and relaxed. There are pictures of the children around the home. There is a separate soft-play room that children use to relax and self-soothe. The children benefit from a good environment and have play equipment to enjoy in the house and the garden.

The children do not have access to an independent advocate. Therefore, they do not have an independent adult to share their wishes and feelings with outside the home.

### **How well children and young people are helped and protected: good**

Children are safeguarded and feel safe at the home. The manager has ensured that the staff have appropriate safeguarding training and that they understand the procedures. Staff are confident and well equipped to manage safeguarding incidents, which helps to keep children safe.

The manager ensures that allegations made by children are investigated promptly. The manager informs relevant professionals about allegations. This action means that children are safeguarded effectively.

Clear risk assessments give good guidance to staff on managing incidents when one child goes missing from the home. Staff manage these incidents well and with sensitivity. Staff always manage to keep the child in sight and encourage the child to return to the home. The support and perseverance of the staff has led to a reduction in the frequency of the child going missing from the home.

Staff understand that physical intervention should only be used as a last resort. They use their positive relationships with children to prevent unnecessary physical interventions. Staff support children following interventions and encourage them to manage their feelings safely. This practice has led to a reduction in physical interventions.

Children have individualised behaviour support plans. These plans give the staff clear guidance on how to best support the children. Children have input into their plans so that they understand and contribute to the strategies. Children have developed self-soothing techniques. Detailed plans give staff the tools to be able to support the children to manage behaviour safely.

### **The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good**

The manager is working towards a level 5 diploma in management. She has high aspirations for children and is very nurturing. The manager models this practice and staff have developed the same approach.

Staff said that the manager is supportive and approachable. The staff have regular supervision that is supportive. Staff feel confident in meeting children's needs and benefit from good professional development.

The manager works well with other professionals to ensure that the children have a good network of support. A social worker and two healthcare specialists said that they were impressed with the manager's and staff's level of care for the children. One child's placement at the home was at risk of breaking down. The manager worked closely with professionals and this breakdown was prevented.

The manager implements a range of monitoring tools to review the effectiveness of the home. She uses information from reviews to develop and implement an action plan. The manager continually makes improvements at the home and improves the quality of care for the children.

## **What does the children's home need to do to improve?**

### **Recommendation**

- The registered person should ensure that children have access to appropriate advocacy support. Children who are looked after are entitled to an independent advocate to advise them and ensure that they have the support needed to express their views, wishes and feelings about their care and lives. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 23, paragraph 4.16)

### **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 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:** 2594875

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

**Registered provider:** The Beeches UK Limited

**Registered provider address:** SBCH House, 212 Ballards Lane, London N3 2LX

**Responsible individual:** Rebecca Ouellani

**Registered manager:** Deborah Briggs

## Inspector

Amy Miles, Social Care Inspector

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