

2533064

Registered provider: Beacon Childcare Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

A private provider operates this home. The home offers medium- to long-term care for up to three children with learning disabilities.

The manager registered with Ofsted in April 2022, and he holds the required level 5 qualification in leadership and management.

Inspection date: 25 January 2024

Date of last inspection: 18 July 2023

Judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At this inspection, the inspectors evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children, using the social care common inspection framework. This assurance 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'.

Findings from the inspection

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

Three children were living at the home at the time of this inspection. Two children have been living at the home since the last inspection and one new child has moved in. This child experienced a well-planned move. He was able to visit the home beforehand and he received good support so that he knew what to expect. This has helped the child to settle into the home and make progress.

Staff promote children's health and well-being. Children enjoy home-cooked food and a range of activities. Staff help children to attend health appointments, and medication is well managed. Staff are trained and able to support a child with a specific medical condition effectively.

Children develop positive relationships with staff, who know them well. Staff help children to communicate their wants and needs and staff respond to these with care.

All children attend education and they receive personalised support with their learning. Staff keep in regular contact with children's teachers to ensure that there is a coordinated approach to children's education.

Children enjoy family time, which is well supported by staff. This helps children to maintain relationships with people who are important to them. It also helps to reassure family members about the quality of care their children are receiving.

When children raise concerns about staff, procedures are followed and the concerns investigated. This helps to keep children safe.

Managers have addressed recommendations raised in the fire risk assessment. This means they have taken action to meet a requirement raised at the previous inspection. In addition, children's risk assessments provide clear guidance for staff, which they follow to promote children's safety.

Some areas of the home are well maintained, while others require improvement. For example, some upstairs rooms need decorating and a sofa in one of the lounges is broken and not fit for purpose. However, managers were quick to make repairs to the sensory room after some flooding, so that children could start using this room again.

Children enjoy a range of different activities. For example, one child has a tricycle that he likes to ride around on. Children make good use of the sensory room because they enjoy spending time in there.

Since the last inspection, several staff have left. Some left because plans to open a new home within the organisation did not materialise, while others now work at a different home or have moved on to pastures new. The remaining staff have pulled together to provide children with consistent care. Staff morale is improving. However, the manager is now working significantly excessive hours to cover shortfalls while new staff are recruited and this cannot be maintained.

Staff receive regular supervision. This helps them to reflect on and develop their practice. Staff said that they feel well supported by the manager.

An independent person visits the home each month and writes a report about the quality of care provided to children. The independent person always announces their visits, even though visits to the home can be unannounced. In addition, it is not clear in their reports how the independent person engages with children and uses this to inform their findings. Managers have already identified this issue and a new independent visitor is due to start visiting the home each month. This shows that managers are aware of the vulnerability of the existing arrangements and have taken steps to strengthen them.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
18/07/2023	Full	Good
21/06/2022	Full	Good
06/01/2022	Interim	Improved effectiveness
05/05/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good

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

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions that the registered person(s) must take to meet the Care Standards Act 2000, The Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and the 'Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards'. The registered person(s) must comply within the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that— helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— ensure that the home has sufficient staff to provide care for each child. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(d)) This requirement was raised at the last inspection and is repeated.	30 March 2024
The quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who— understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children; use this understanding to deliver care that meets children's needs and supports them to fulfil their potential. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— ensure that staff— provide to children living in the home the physical necessities they need in order to live there comfortably; ensure that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed and furnished so as to— meet the needs of each child. (Regulation 6 (2)(b)(c)(i))	10 March 2024

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2533064

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Beacon Childcare Limited

Registered provider address: 28 Phoenix Business Park, Avenue Close,
Birmingham B7 4NU

Responsible individual: Mark O'Donnell

Registered manager: Depriye Stanley Goodluck

Inspectors

Jackie Line, Social Care Inspector
Chanel Bryant, Social Care Inspector

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