

2594875

Registered provider: The Beeches UK Limited

Interim 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, at the request of the Secretary of State, we suspended all routine inspections of social care providers carried out under the social care common inspection framework (SCCIF) on 17 March 2020. We returned to routine SCCIF inspections on 12 April 2021.

Inspection date: 29 October 2021

Date of last inspection: 10 August 2021

Judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

This inspection

The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection

This home was judged good at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection, Ofsted judged that it has sustained effectiveness.

Since August 2021, there has been a safeguarding concern raised to Ofsted. This concern was reviewed as part of the interim inspection. No immediate safety or safeguarding issues were identified at this inspection.

The staff provide high levels of supervision to safely care for children with significant complex needs and who present with risky behaviours. This has, at times, meant a reliance on agency workers. Staffing sufficiency has been affected by staff sickness levels due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The manager addresses these challenges carefully. She makes sure that safe recruitment policies are followed. In addition, she ensures that, whenever possible, the same agency workers are used and are closely supervised by senior permanent members of staff. This ensures that children's safety is not compromised and that children benefit from consistent care.

Children develop positive and trusting relationships with the staff. This helps children to overcome past trauma and previous placement breakdowns. For one child, his previous difficulties meant that he needed a significant level of supervision. By taking a nurturing and non-judgemental approach, staff have enabled him to manage his feelings and emotions and develop positive coping strategies. Consequently, the need for staff monitoring is reducing as the child continues to make good progress.

Children benefit from opportunities to go out with members of staff and take part in various activities, including trampolining, cycling and going to the cinema. In addition, the home has a multi-use games area which provides space for children to play ping-pong and enjoy soft play. Children can enjoy themselves both in and out of the home.

Staff manage incidents of children going missing from the home well. They follow children's individual plans and understand that, for some children, taking time out to walk away from the home is important to them. Staff ensure that they are there alongside the children and actively search the area if they lose sight of them. Consequently, staff are able to support children to safely return to the home and avoid long periods of them being missing from care.

Since the last inspection, all children have been able to access an independent advocate. The senior management team has assigned funding to ensure that children can access independent support without delay. This means that children have the support that they need to share their wishes and feelings and are active in making decisions about their care.

The manager takes a strong partnership approach to safeguarding. Any issues of concern are shared with the correct agencies promptly. This ensures that action and safety plans are implemented and are adaptive to children's risks.

The staff speak highly of the manager's approach and attitude. They say that her willingness to lead by example and focus on the best interests of the children creates a positive team culture.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
10/08/2021	Full	Good

Information about this inspection

This inspection focused on the effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full 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

Leemya McKeown, Social Care Inspector

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