

# 2746466

Registered provider: SBL Care Services (UK) Ltd

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 2 children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

The home and manager have been registered with Ofsted since August 2023.

At the time of the inspection, 2 children were living in the home. Both children spoke to the inspector about their experiences of living in the home.

### Inspection dates: 4 and 5 February 2026

|                                                                                           |                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Overall experiences and progress of children and young people,</b> taking into account | <b>outstanding</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|

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

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

The children's home provides highly effective services that consistently exceed the standards of good. The actions of the children's home contribute to significantly improved outcomes and positive experiences for children and young people who need help, protection and care.

**Date of last inspection:** 17 December 2024

**Overall judgement at last inspection:** outstanding

**Enforcement action since last inspection:** none

## Recent inspection history

| Inspection date | Inspection type | Inspection judgement |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 17/12/2024      | Full            | Outstanding          |
| 17/01/2024      | Full            | Good                 |

## Inspection judgements

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

Staff provide excellent care and support to children, which is underpinned by research about practice. This means that children make exceptional progress. Consistent and trusting relationships between children and staff enable children to form positive attachments and to feel safe and secure.

Care planning and care practice are highly individualised. Staff have a comprehensive understanding of each child's needs and provide them with a bespoke package of care and support. They work closely with external agencies to ensure that children receive the services and support they require to make progress.

All children are making remarkable progress in their education settings. Staff go above and beyond to ensure that children's education provisions fully meet their individual needs. One child who was not accessing any form of education prior to moving into the home is now attending school full time. One education professional commented that this was 'nothing short of a miracle.'

The quality of direct work completed with children is excellent. Staff sensitively talk to children about key issues such as online safety, sextortion and exploitation. Staff identify creative ways to educate children on key issues, which leads to more meaningful engagement.

Staff recognise the complexities of the relationships that exist between children and their families. They work hard to help children and their immediate families to understand, manage and improve these relationships and to maintain positive and safe family time. One child is moving back to live with their immediate family and staff are working positively with the family towards this reunification.

The home environment is maintained to an excellent standard. The home is welcoming and there is a relaxed atmosphere. There are pictures of the children and the staff team around the home, which gives a homely feel, and children have a pet guinea pig.

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

Children's risks reduce in this home because of the support they are given by staff. Risk assessments are up to date and include all pertinent risks. These assessments lead to detailed behaviour management plans. Children's views are clear throughout their plans. Children's risks are known and fully understood by staff.

Leaders and managers are passionate about research-informed practice and incorporate this into the day-to-day running of the home. This has made a significant difference to the lives of children.

Children are respectful of staff. Leaders and staff are positive role models for children and they support children to take age-appropriate risks. Children benefit from a structured environment, with clear boundaries and planned daily routines. Staff help children to take responsibility for their behaviour, to respect others and to be sensitive to each other's feelings.

Robust monitoring of devices and internet use ensures that any inappropriate use is flagged up and dealt with promptly. Staff use online resources and direct-work sessions to educate children to be safer online. This has helped them to recognise dangers and warning signs.

Staff work effectively with partner agencies to ensure children are safeguarded. All safeguarding incidents have been dealt with appropriately and without delay.

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

A strong and inspirational leader manages the home. The knowledge and understanding she has of the children in her care is exceptional. Children are at the heart of everything; the manager ensures that children's input and ideas are always considered.

There are strong systems in place to monitor the progress children make, and children are receiving high-quality care. Leaders and managers have good oversight of the day-to-day running of the home.

Staff have undertaken a range of training, including mandatory training, all of which is relevant to the needs of the children living in the home. Staff hold relevant childcare qualifications. New starters are enrolled on the training for this qualification as soon as probation is completed.

Team meetings are well attended and held regularly. They link to research and development, and this reflection enables the team to strive to improve. The manager and deputy managers promote positive team spirit and are nurturing and supportive.

Placing authorities are extremely complimentary about the staff and the care provided to children. They hold the manager in high regard. One social worker said, 'It is great working with the home. I have confidence in the work they are doing.'

Leaders and managers ensure that an independent person visits the home each month and they respond without delay to any actions raised. However, the independent person visits the home when children are at school, which means they are not regularly consulted with. Also, the independent person does not regularly obtain the views of families and external professionals.

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

### **Recommendation**

- The registered person should ensure the independent person makes arrangements to visit the home that enable them to regularly consult with children, and that they also consult parents and professionals as part of their assessment of the home's care. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 65, paragraph 15.5)

### **Information about this inspection**

The inspector has 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:** 2746466

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

**Registered provider:** SBL Care Services (UK) Ltd

**Registered provider address:** 17 St Peters Place, Fleetwood FY7 6EB

**Responsible individual:** Michael Swift

**Registered manager:** Carla Jones

## Inspector

Helen Fee, Social Care Inspector

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