



Statement of Purpose

Beaumont Children's Home

08/09/2022

The name of the Children's Home Manager: Ms Diana Mutsa Chipendo

Relevant qualifications & experience of the Home Manager

Ms Diana Mutsa Chipendo has extensive experience in strategic transformation projects in the education sector – working predominantly in educational settings designed to positively support the most complex young people with behaviours that challenge. Since opening DMC Consulting Services Ltd in 2015 Diana has managed a team of care coordinators, support staff, service users (and their carers) and has worked in a number of care related areas, including; Valuing People and Person Centred Planning.

Qualifications:

- ❖ Postgraduate Level 7 Diploma in Health and Social Care
- ❖ Level 5 Diploma in leadership for Health and Social Care and Children and Young Peoples Services
- ❖ Higher Level Apprenticeship in General Adult Social Care
- ❖ NVQ Level 3 in Health and Social Care
- ❖ Master of Business Administrations
- ❖ Special Degree of Bachelor of Sciences with Honours Second Class in Business Management
- ❖ Postgraduate Certificate in Education
- ❖ Qualified Teacher Status

Description of the Home

Beaumont Children's Home is currently undergoing registration as a children's home. It is a semi detached property within a residential neighbourhood; it has 2 bedrooms and one office room and can currently only accommodate one service user due to the complexity of their needs. The children may have emotional, behavioural and social difficulties and the children's home will be fully regulated by OFSTED. The children's home accommodates children 365 days of the year via 52-week placements, dependent on their individual circumstances surrounding educational needs and the contact plans in place.

Emergency placements will be considered on an individual basis where a risk assessment will be carried out. Full time placements may be able to continue whilst a suitable long-term home is found. In these situations, the best interests of all children involved will always be at the forefront of any decisions made.

Within the home and surrounding areas, the children can socialise via social structured activities and during free time dependent on their level of independence and risk assessment. The Home has an open garden attached for the service user to enjoy the facilities and the safe space. There are fences surrounding the garden providing appropriate boundaries for the local residents/neighbours that also live in the community surrounding Beaumont Lodge.

Beaumont Lodge is in an ideal location to provide the children with opportunities that will support their interest and hobbies offering a variety of venues to allow the children to engage with the communities that also surround them. Recreational clubs such as air cadets, football, cricket, rugby clubs, equine centres and a variety of fitness and fun activities are available in close proximity to the home. Dancing, drama and singing classes are also available within the local community.

Beaumont has access to a wide variety of places of worship for many faiths, and within a 30-minute drive, there are further religious establishments. We will support all children's religious, cultural and ethnicity needs within the local community, where preferences have been expressed.

There may be times when, through joint planning and mutual agreement, a child may be able to stay beyond their 18th birthday. This will be evaluated on a case by case basis to ensure we are able to meet the needs of the young person at all times. If this was to occur, there would be a review of plans in place to support the young person to ensure we meet their changing needs as they move into adulthood.

Service Users – those we are able to support and care for:

Age Range

This service is intended for people aged 16 – 18 years although a child may be able to stay beyond their 18th birthday or there is an option that they may re-locate to one of our 18+ supported living services.

Gender

We support both male and female

Special Provisions

Services and environments can be adapted to suit certain individual needs.

Quality & Purpose of Care

The staff team at Beaumont Children's Home are skilled in adapting their approach to suit the particular needs of the children they support, and the staff training is provided to develop and maintain individual's skills. Staff listen and respond to the voice of the child.

Our aims are to provide learning and independence through enjoyable activities which expand the opportunities available for children, whilst supporting them to learn skills appropriate to their age, ability and understanding, encouraging natural progression, within a home environment. We do this

by working closely with the child, families, key professionals, schools, and others that are important to the child, to provide consistency and support in ways that are in the best interest of the child.

Children are encouraged and supported to have as much involvement in decisions regarding their care as possible. Advocates will be made available for children within the home.

The ethos of the home is to provide a home from home environment where children can grow and develop through a nurturing process that caters to their individuality. We are committed to providing a caring environment where everyone is treated with dignity and respect.

We provide activities and opportunities to enhance the children's experiences and outcomes. We will complete a "My Story" with each child to celebrate all their experiences and achievements.

Safeguarding Children

It is the aim of the home to ensure that every child feels relaxed and safe at all times. Any safeguarding disclosure will be treated sensitively and supportively, as per Gravesham Child Protection Policies and Procedures. All disclosures will be treated seriously and reported as appropriate.

A robust Location Risk Assessment containing information from both the Local Police and Gravesham Police website is produced annually.

All those involved with the provision of services for children in the children's home settings, must be alert to the possibility of abuse by other children, visitors and members of staff. Staff attend relevant training, in line with the Gravesham Council policies. Staff are able, if they have a specific interest, to request training in specific areas of Safeguarding through the appraisal process. The staff team working at Beaumont have access to the Management Team On-call for advice and guidance, as well as regular supervision in which they can discuss any concerns they may have. We have an "Open Door" Policy whereby staff can seek support from the Management Team whenever they feel this is required.

All children have a Fire Evacuation Plan more commonly known as a PEEP, and the home has an annual Fire Risk Assessment completed.

All compliments, concerns and complaints are taken seriously. Children are encouraged to share compliments, concerns and complaints with their parents and carers, staff, managers or the Service Manager.

Children, parents/carers, members of the public, agencies or professionals are able to raise compliments or concerns to staff, lead professionals, or go directly to MASH, LADO, Disabled Children's Service, or Ofsted. Requests to see the homes policies and procedures can be made to Beaumont Children's Homes. Compliments, Concerns and Complaints can be made to:

Diana Chipendo- Manager of Beaumont Childrens Home

27A Darnley Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 0RZ

Telephone: 07525497949/ 01474333718

Gravesham County Council Customer Relations

By visiting this website link: [Things you need to know | Make an official complaint – Gravesham Borough Council](#)

Telephone: 01474564422

Ofsted

Piccadilly Gate

Store Street

Manchester

M1 2WD

Telephone: [0300 123 1231](tel:03001231231)

Email: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk

The home promotes an environment in which bullying is not acceptable. If bullying is found to occur, effective strategies will be implemented to manage the situation safely and promptly. We support children to actively come forward with their concerns in any area.

Staff at Beaumont are aware that children need privacy. However, this must be balanced with issues of protection and safety. The privacy and dignity of the children are respected at all times. There may be exceptions to this if monitoring is required due to individual needs for health and safety reasons.

Children at Beaumont have their own private bedroom. They have the option of locking the bedroom door if they wish to, although staff do carry a key to the door, and will use it to unlock a door if they deem the child to be at risk.

The need for supervision, checks, and the use of audio or visual monitors during the night, is assessed on an individual basis. Night time monitoring will only take place where there is an identified need which will be detailed in the individuals agreed

Access and exit to the home is via a main front door. All children are assessed individually as to the safety of them knowing the code to exit the building. Visual Identification is required and the signing of the visitor book.

At Beaumont we support multi-disciplinary working with professionals and are happy to facilitate visits from known education, health and social care professionals. There are procedures in place to ensure the individuals identity is known and recorded. Any visits that take place will be organised by the parents or carer and/or lead professional for the child except in an emergency situation.

In the event of a child going missing from the home (or during outings away from the home) immediate action will be taken to locate the child. The member of staff supporting the child will carry an emergency card, which holds emergency contact details, and a photograph. The Police will be informed, and contact will be made with families and lead professionals, as appropriate. Full Risk Assessments are put in place for children who have behaviours that increase the likelihood of them going missing from care – we will link with the local police where necessary.

Staff information

Beaumont Lodge places great importance on recruiting and retaining high calibre staff that possess appropriate qualifications and experience. We aim to appoint a staff team of mixed ages, gender and ethnicity, that individually and collectively present as positive role models for the young people in our care. At all times we will have the appropriate number of staff on duty with the necessary experience and ability to meet the needs of the young people.

A full list of staffing and qualifications maybe accessed upon request to DMC Consulting Services Ltd- 01474333718 or dmcconsultingservicesltd@gmail.com

Educational Achievement

Education is a fundamental part of development which prepares children to take their place in the community. We have, over the years, built up excellent relationships with Special Needs Schools in the area and work closely with them. We know that working with children with Special Educational Needs requires a multi-agency approach and close working relationships are essential.

Our behaviour management approach is individual to each child and involves working closely with school to ensure a consistency of approach. We use communication cards to ensure that children with communication difficulties have the tools to communicate their wishes, feelings and life choices. We are aware that for many children with Special Educational Needs their education involves life skills as much as academic achievement.

We offer children in our care a varied activity programme which takes into account their individual likes and dislikes as well as their abilities and disabilities. For example, we believe in recognising and encouraging children talents and abilities, in order for them to develop their own personalities, their own sense of self-esteem and worth whilst making educational and social achievements. Our education reward scheme is pitched at a level the children in the home can aspire to. We recognise the importance and potential pitfalls of transitions, whether it is from year to year or to adulthood and work closely with school and education staff at these times. If necessary, we can support children 1:1 in the classroom and provide staff for school trips to ensure children can take advantage of opportunities offered.

Children's Health

The health needs of all the children are determined in consultation with the child, their parents or carers, and lead professionals prior to admission and throughout their time at Beaumont Children's Home.

Where the children have long term health conditions, staff are trained in the clinical skills necessary to deliver the care safely. The Children's Home has responsibility for ensuring correct and appropriate training of staff. Where it is necessary to utilise the skills of other individuals, their credentials and identity will be checked thoroughly and, if they require access to the child, it will be with parental consent and supervised.

Some of the children may require specialised equipment and follow specialist Physiotherapy programmes. Staff members liaise with the relevant professionals to provide these services, if identified. Consultation takes place with parents, carers and the school, to provide continuity of care for the child during their stay.

Some of the children have specific dietary requirements. Regular discussions with the parents or carers and the dietician, Paediatrician and GP are necessary in order to meet the health needs of the child, whilst also taking into consideration the child's wishes.

When young people come to live at Beaumont Childrens Home we request that they have a medical check-up. Young people are registered with, and encouraged to attend, a local GP and dentist who will deal with both routine and emergency treatments. Each young person will receive at least an annual dental check, annual eye test, annual statutory medical assessment Consultation with a doctor remains confidential.

We actively promote good health care. We will support young people to remain healthy through the provision of information and guidance on health issues, including diet, sexual health, smoking and substance abuse. Smoking is not permitted within The Oaks and smoking cessation will be proactively encouraged by staff. We monitor and record details related to the overall health and wellbeing of each young person and are mindful of the following:

- Health history (past illness, operations, vaccinations, immunisations, allergies, developmental milestones, prescribed medication, current treatments)
- Diet including cooking and menu planning
- Exercise and keeping fit
- Dental care
- Optical care
- Sexual health
- Side effects of any medication

We encourage that, wherever possible, a young person takes as much responsibility as they are able to for managing their own medication and health care. We have a written policy that clearly states our responsibilities and the procedures for dispensing and storing medication. Details can be found in Beaumont Children's Services Policies and Procedures Manual.

Behavioural Support & Management

Our Positive behaviour policy can be accessed in the home and is available on request.

An important aspect of caring for young people is establishing positive relationships and clear professional and personal boundaries, helping to encourage the growth of trust, partnership and a sense of value, for both self and others. Our belief at Beaumont Children's Home is that young people excel when they feel valued, supported, respected, and safe. At Beaumont Children's Home there is also a clear expectation that people treat each other with respect. This is encouraged through a number of ways including incentives, direct work, young people's meetings and consistent application of behavioural boundaries. Positive Reinforcement and Sanctions.

Being aware of how much positive regard can help to build up a good sense of self and self-esteem, at Beaumont Children's Home we endeavour to create a setting that functions positively, making greater use of rewards and positive reinforcements, using sanctions only when absolutely necessary. While we promote positive behaviours, we realise that young people will make mistakes and should be able to learn from these in order to develop and be ready to be a positive member within society. However, there is a clear expectation that boundaries will be kept and if breached a series of measures are used to maintain them. All staff undergo positive behaviour support training and we have our very own PBS practitioner available to the young person on site.