

2511289

Registered provider: Cambian Childcare Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This children's home is operated by a private national company. It is registered to care for one child.

There has been no registered manager since 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 and 15 October 2020 to carry out an assurance visit. The report is published on our website.

Inspection dates: 30 June to 1 July 2021

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	good
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	good
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 18 December 2019

Overall judgement at last inspection: Improved effectiveness

Enforcement action since last inspection: None

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
18/12/2019	Interim	Improved effectiveness
25/07/2019	Full	Requires improvement to be good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The home is spacious and well maintained. However, several walls are bare, there are a few locks which are not needed, this means the environment does not feel homely, nor does it reflect the identity of the child who has lived here since 2019. The child has made significant progress in many areas of their life since moving into the home. They no longer need medication for mood stabilising and to support sleep. They are physically healthier, achieving in education, developing relationships with family members and developing the skills to live and travel independently.

A great deal of positive feedback has been provided to staff by the child during their time living at the home. It is evident that the care provided has a continuing positive impact. Unfortunately, the child has now dis-engaged from the home as they feel that they are ready to move on. However, staff are ensuring that they support the child to manage their frustrations and anxieties as best they can.

Although the child is currently living away from the home, the staff remain committed to supporting them and visit them daily to ensure they know that staff care. Regular text contact also takes place and the child is provided with food and personal items when they ask for these.

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

Safeguarding practice is effective. When incidents occur, actions taken are clear and the least restrictive steps are used to de-escalate the situation and support the child to manage their emotions.

Advice and guidance for staff are clear and enable them to meet the needs of the child. This advice is consistently reviewed and informed by therapeutic guidance.

When allegations are made, internal investigations are thorough and ensure safeguarding is paramount. Safety plans are clear and accessible for staff. Due to the dynamic situation, these are consistently updated in line with the changing needs of the child.

Opportunities to engage the child in meaningful conversations are taken, and a nurturing approach is evident. However, these conversations are not scrutinised to ensure that all staff are taking the same approach and to look at ways to improve the positive impact they have.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home is managed effectively. Senior leaders and managers are providing support to the manager who is not yet registered with Ofsted. The manager has a

wealth of experience in other social care roles. This provides him with a good transferable skill set.

There are several audit systems in place. These include internal audits and regular independent visits to the home. This is promoting good practice development.

Oversight of the home is supported by regular updates to key documents. Information is clear and easily accessible for staff and other stake holders. Notifications of significant events are submitted in a timely way. This ensures important external oversight of any concerns.

Training and induction activities are given within appropriate timescales. Occasionally, when training has been delayed, appropriate precautions have been taken.

Leaders and managers have not escalated concerns robustly, regarding delayed planning with other agencies. A Deprivation of Liberty Safeguard (DOLS) order was in place when the child arrived at the home. This was no longer required for a significant period. However, due to an escalation in the child's behaviours, a further DOLS order has been implemented by the Court. It is of concern that this has been required again and that planning for a move on was not carried out in a timely way.

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, 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
In meeting the quality standards, the registered person must, and must ensure that staff— if the registered person considers, or staff consider, a placing authority's or a relevant person's performance or response to be inadequate in relation to their role, challenge the placing authority or the relevant person to seek to ensure that each child's needs are met in accordance with the child's relevant plans. (Regulation 5 (c))	29 July 2021

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that staff provide a consistent approach to help children to understand how to protect themselves, feel protected and be protected from significant harm. This includes promoting the positive use of meaningful conversations to help children share their feelings and to learn how to keep themselves safe. (Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 43, paragraph 9.9)

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: 2511289

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Cambian Childcare Limited

Registered provider address: Metropolitan House, 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar
EN6 1AG

Responsible individual: Nicola McClements

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Polly Soper, Social Care Inspector

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