

SC064666

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 organisation.

The provider states in its statement of purpose that it provides care for children who may have social and/or emotional difficulties.

The manager was registered with Ofsted in September 2021.

Inspection dates: 25 and 26 May 2022

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account **good**

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

The effectiveness of leaders and managers **good**

The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 26 May 2021

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
26/05/2021	Full	Good
23/07/2019	Full	Good
07/06/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be good
26/06/2017	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

There have been no changes to the child living in the home since the last inspection. The child that lives at the home was admitted in October 2020. Since his admission, he has generally made good progress living at this home. The child has formed positive relationships with the staff that care for him.

The child benefits from effective help and support through one-to-one work with staff. He has open discussions about his thoughts and feelings and receives the support he needs to address his anxieties.

The child is registered with the health services he needs to be healthy. He attends his routine health appointments with support and encouragement from staff. The child benefits from a healthy and well-balanced diet and is encouraged to lead a healthy lifestyle.

The child enjoys cooking with staff and has engaged in a diverse range of activities to promote his interests and hobbies. The child attends an alternative educational provision. However, his recent educational attendance has become sporadic after making a positive start to his education. Staff actively promote the child's learning and work closely with the provider of his education to promote positive outcomes for him. The child's social worker reported, 'Staff have done everything they can to support him and have cared for him well.'

The arrangements for the child to spend time with his family are subject to restrictions. Staff are supportive of the child having family time in accordance with the plans prepared by the placing authority. Staff supervise contact to ensure that the child sees the people that are most important to him.

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

The use of robust risk assessments helps staff to manage the child's behaviours and keep him safe from harm. Risks associated with the child are well known and understood by staff.

The child has become increasingly safer because of the actions staff take to help and protect him. For example, incidents of property damage, assaults, challenging behaviour and self-harm have all reduced considerably. There are no safeguarding issues or welfare concerns in relation to substance misuse, offending or exploitation.

The use of restraint is exceptionally rare and, if used at all, it is only used as a last resort to protect the child from harm. There has been one restraint since the last inspection. The use of consequences to address negative behaviours is fair, balanced and proportionate.

There have been no complaints since the last inspection. Allegations of abuse are always taken seriously, and these are reported to the appropriate authorities to protect children from harm.

Staff are trained in child protection and have a good understanding of their safeguarding roles. Safer recruitment practice ensures that staff are vetted and selected carefully to promote the safety of children.

The child has become increasingly frustrated with living so far away from home. This has led to a recent increase in the frequency and duration of the child going missing from the home. At the time of this inspection, the child was missing. Strategy meetings have taken place and a recovery order has now been obtained by the placing authority. Staff, the police and the placing authority are all working together to secure the child's safe return.

The child's placement is currently under review. The social worker reported, 'They have continued to provide him with support even through difficult times, and have not wanted to give up on him. Unfortunately, I don't feel this is the right placement, but it's not from want of trying.'

While the home has reported a previous long-term absence of the child, it had not informed Ofsted about the child's most recent and prolonged absence. Consequently, a requirement is made in respect of this issue. The registered manager has since made a notification to Ofsted.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The home employs a permanent registered manager who has been in post since September 2021. The manager is suitably experienced and qualified. He is currently working towards finishing his diploma level 5 in leadership and management.

The registered manager exercises effective leadership in relation to the day-to-day running and management of the home. He is a dedicated and committed leader who strives to ensure that the best outcomes are achieved for the children in his care.

The home provides a stable, well-qualified and diverse staff team to meet the child's specific needs. Staff are well supported through regular supervision. They have access to high-quality training to promote their skills and knowledge.

The home provides the child with a physically safe, warm, comfortable and homely living environment. The home has been redecorated since the last inspection and there are plans to have a new kitchen fitted in the near future. However, a wall outside the child's bedroom requires skimming and repainting following an incident of property damage. Additionally, the bathroom facilities would benefit from refurbishment as these facilities are now looking tired and dated.

The home is visited by an independent person on a regular basis to review the performance of the home. The manager makes good use of these visits to

understand the home's strengths and weaknesses. He tackles any shortfalls and makes the necessary changes to improve the home's performance.

The manager has developed positive relationships with other external professional agencies to ensure that children benefit from effective help and all-round support. The aims and objectives of the statement of purpose are met by the manager and staff team. The manager has met and addressed the three requirements from the last inspection.

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
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 the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed and furnished so as to— meet the needs of each child; and enable each child to participate in the daily life of the home. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c)(i)(ii)) This relates specifically to repairing and repainting the upstairs damaged wall and the refurbishment of the bathroom facilities.	29 July 2022
The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if— a child is involved in or subject to, or is suspected of being involved in or subject to sexual exploitation; an incident requiring police involvement occurs in relation to a child which the registered person considers to be serious; there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there; a child protection enquiry involving a child—	1 June 2022

is instigated; or concludes (in which case, the notification must include the outcome of the child protection enquiry); or there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious. (Regulation 40 (4)(a)(b)(c)(d)(i)(ii)(e))	
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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: SC064666

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: Leanne Woodings

Registered manager: Simon Alder

Inspector

Anthony Kyem, Social Care Inspector

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