

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	02/02/2017
Unique reference number	SC065855
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	Cambian Childcare Ltd
Registered provider address	4th Floor, Waterfront, Hammersmith Embankment, London, W6 9RU

Responsible individual	Sharon Edney
Registered manager	Shane McCarthy
Inspector	Lisa Walsh

Inspection date	02/02/2017
Previous inspection judgement	Sustained effectiveness
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 judges that it has sustained effectiveness. As there have not been any new admissions or transitions since the full inspection in August 2016, the home has continued to care for the same group of three young people. Since the last inspection, the registered manager's successful partnership working with placing authorities has enabled the young people to make good progress in respect of their personal, social and emotional development. Staff are intuitive, caring and sensitive in their approach. This helps to promote strong relationships between the staff and young people. There have been no complaints since the last inspection. Young people say that they are happy and that they feel safe. Staff provide young people with opportunities to share their views and contribute to the care they receive. For example, young people receive regular key-work sessions and attend weekly young people's meetings. Young people have moved forwards with their health. This includes them improving their personal health and becoming more aware of their diet. Effective links between staff and the clinical team mean that staff have a good understanding of the emotional health needs of young people. This extends to staff being aware of how young people's emotional health influences aspects of their behaviour and development. As a result, staff provide young people with good-quality personalised care that is tailored to their individual therapeutic needs. Young people's safety continues to be a high priority. Staff have worked well with child protection agencies and the police in response safeguarding concerns. Since the last inspection, there have been no incidents of self-harm. Young people have not needed to be physically restrained, have not gone missing from care and have not been subject to risks of child sexual exploitation.	

Staff place a high value on education and work closely with young people's schools to motivate, encourage and support young people to attend. All young people now are accessing full-time education and making good academic progress.

When it is appropriate, young people are encouraged to increase their levels of responsibility in preparation for the transition to adulthood. For example, young people are supported to manage a budget, complete food shopping and prepare their own meals. Individualised independence plans are put in place and staff are enthusiastic in working with the young people to formulate and develop these plans. This ensures that young people are fully equipped with the skills that will enable them to live independently in the future.

Three requirements and three recommendations were made at the last inspection. Most of these have been met. However, some areas require additional responses from the management.

Staff state that they are well supported by the management team, and that senior staff are always available. However, records of supervision continue to lack sufficient detail and are not completed in line with the home's policy.

The use of bedroom alarms has continued without the undertaking of sufficient individualised risk assessment regarding the necessity of these alarm system.

Information about this children's home

The home is registered to provide care for three young people up to the age of 18. The home offers care for young people who have behavioural and/or emotional needs. The home is privately owned.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
29/01/2016	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
28/04/2015	Full	Good
03/02/2015	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
10/07/2014	Full	Good

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

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions which must be taken so that the registered person(s) meet(s) 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 with the given timescales.

Requirement	Due date
The registered person must ensure that— (b) children can access all appropriate areas of the children's home's premises; and (c) any limitation placed on a child's privacy or access to any area of the home's premises— (ii) is necessary and proportionate; (iii) is kept under review and, if necessary, revised; and (iv) allows children as much freedom as is possible when balanced against the need to protect them and keep them safe. (Regulation 21(b)(c)(ii)(iii)(iv))	02/03/2017

Recommendations

To improve the quality and standards of care further the service should take account of the following recommendations:

- Make sure that a record of supervision is kept for staff, including the manager. The record should provide evidence that supervision is being delivered in line with regulation 33(4)(b). ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.3)
- Make sure that the content and/or outcomes of supervision sessions are kept and ensure that both the person giving the supervision and the staff member have a copy of the record. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.4)

What the inspection judgements mean

At the interim inspection we make a judgement on whether the home has improved in effectiveness, sustained effectiveness, or declined in effectiveness since the previous full inspection. This is in line with the 'Inspection of children's homes: framework for inspection'.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people living in the children's home. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the difference adults make to the lives of children and young people. They read case files, watched how professional staff work with children, young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care given to children and young people. Wherever possible, they talked to children, young people and their families. In addition the inspectors have tried to understand what the children's home knows about how well it is performing, how well it is doing and what difference it is making for the children and young people who it is trying to help, protect and look after.

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.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service 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'.

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