

SC454647

Registered provider: Cambian Childcare Ltd

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is privately owned and provides care for up to five children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

There was no registered manager at the time of this inspection. The appointed manager has applied to register with Ofsted.

Inspection date: 7 January 2025

Date of last inspection: 30 July 2024

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At this inspection, the inspector evaluated:

- the care of children
- the safety of children
- the effectiveness of leaders and managers.

The inspector has looked closely at the experiences and progress of children, using the social care common inspection framework. This assurance 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'.

Findings from the inspection

We did not identify any serious or widespread concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection.

Since the last inspection, two children have remained living at the home and one child has been welcomed, with a well-planned, positive introduction and move into the home.

Overall, children are settled. Staff are working together more consistently to provide good care to children. There have been no incidents in the home, no missing-from-the-home episodes and no complaints or allegations since the last inspection.

Education is promoted. All three children are either in education or in the process of enrolling. One child is excelling in their college placement and has aspirations for their future. For one child, several incidents of physical intervention have taken place during school time. The manager and staff team are working hard to try to identify triggers and are working alongside the school. Concerns about the cooperation of the school have been appropriately escalated by managers.

Work with children to develop their independence skills is effective. For one child, this means that they can use public transport, that they have time in the community with friends and that they can shop for food and prepare meals.

The health and well-being of children are prioritised. Children are registered with local services and have support to attend appointments. Children also have access to an in-house clinical therapist, who also offers support to the staff team about how to best support children.

Access to clubs and hobbies is encouraged. The children participate in different activities that extend their opportunities and experiences. The children make requests and suggestions at regular children's meetings and in feedback to the manager.

Children have individualised in-house care plans. While these are being updated on a more regular basis, the children are still not fully involved in their care planning. This means that children do not always understand their care plan or the progress they make.

Since the last inspection, the previous manager has withdrawn their application to register and a new manager has been recruited. There has been a thorough handover, and the new manager has made their application to Ofsted within the required time frame. Both managers have worked hard to meet the requirements and recommendations from the last inspection. However, three requirements remain, as they are not or only partially met, and require further attention. No new requirements have been made.

The manager has ensured that staff receive regular supervision. All staff have now had their annual appraisal, and while there are personal development plans, these require further development.

The manager has made improvements to the systems to monitor the operation of the home. This means that he has a better oversight of all aspects of the home and the children's care. The manager continues to make developments holistically in the home.

The physical condition of the home has improved. Staff now have a 'clutter-free' space to sleep in. The children's bedrooms remain clean, tidy, well presented and personalised to their individual tastes.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
30/07/2024	Full	Requires improvement to be good
12/09/2023	Full	Requires improvement to be good
21/03/2023	Full	Good
06/10/2021	Full	Outstanding

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, The 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 leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that— helps children aspire to fulfil their potential. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— lead and manage the home in a way that is consistent with the approach and ethos, and delivers the outcomes, set out in the home's statement of purpose; ensure that staff work as a team and where appropriate; ensure that staff have the experiences, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; understand the impact that the quality of care provided in the home is having on the progress and experiences of each child and use this understanding to inform the development of the quality of care provided in the home; demonstrate that practice in the home is informed and improved by taking into account and acting on— research and developments in relation to the ways in which the needs of children are best met; and use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a) (2)(a)(b)(c)(f)(g)(i)(h)) This specifically relates to ensuring that: the registered manager leads by example and creates a positive culture in the home; monitoring systems are effective in monitoring	28 February 2025

children's progress and experiences; and staff are fully trained.	
The registered person must ensure that all employees— undertake appropriate continuing professional development. (Regulation 33 (4)(a)) This specifically relates to ensuring that staff have a clear professional development plan.	28 February 2025
The care planning standard is that children— receive effectively planned care in or through the children's home; In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— manage and review the placement of each child in the home; that staff help each child to access and contribute to the records kept by the registered person in relation to the child. (Regulation 14 (1)(a)(ii)(f)) This specifically relates to ensuring that children have completed in-house care plans and that they are consulted about their care planning and goal setting.	28 February 2025

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC454647

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Cambian Childcare Ltd

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

Responsible individual: Kira Arlett

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Stacie Sharpe, Social Care Inspector

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