

SC456330

Registered provider: Cambian Childcare Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run home offers care for up to four children who may have experienced neglect, abuse or trauma that has left them vulnerable.

The manager registered with Ofsted in April 2022.

Inspection date: 1 February 2024

Date of last inspection: 11 September 2023

Judgement at last inspection: 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.

Inspectors have 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.

This inspection was brought forward to address specific concerns received by Ofsted. At the time of the inspection, four children were living at the home. Two children had moved in since the last inspection.

Children build positive relationships with staff. This helps children to talk about matters that are important to them. Staff spend time with children and write letters to them every day. This helps to capture children's experiences at the home and will provide a memorable keepsake.

Moves into the home are well planned and enable children to settle in quickly. One social worker said 'they have accommodated [child] in a child-focused, respectful and caring way'. This child was supported to bring their therapy dog to the home. This was well planned and discussed with each child. The dog adds to the homely environment that has been created.

Children understand their long-term plans and this helps them work towards their goals. One child spoke about being an architect and understanding why education is important. Another child is returning home to live with family after being in care for a significant amount of time. The child said they felt supported by staff and they are excited for the future.

There have been some safeguarding concerns in the home. These matters have been dealt with swiftly and the information has been shared with all the relevant professionals.

An experienced manager is in place. She works well with the leadership team. They are creating a learning culture at the home.

The manager works well with the team around each child. She received positive feedback from several social workers. This helps to co-produce considered plans for children.

The manager challenges placing authorities to help ensure that children's needs are met. They have advocated for children to enable family visits to take place. This means children get to spend more time with the people who are important to them and to build relationships that will support them in the future.

Children's plans have not always been updated following significant events and, as a result, important information is missing. This means staff do not have the most up-to-date information to support children.

There has been a small number of physical interventions. These have been necessary and proportionate. However, the quality of the records needs to improve. Records contain errors. Inaccuracies may affect any subsequent analysis of incidents.

The requirement from the last inspection has been met. One recommendation has been reinstated.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
11/09/2023	Full	Good
03/08/2022	Full	Good
10/11/2021	Full	Good
30/10/2019	Interim	Declined in effectiveness

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 protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that the home's day-to-day care is arranged and delivered so as to keep each child safe and to protect each child effectively from harm. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(b)) In particular, this includes ensuring that children's plans contain up-to-date information to help keep them safe and that all staff are aware of what each plan contains.	19 February 2024

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that staff are familiar with the home's policies on record-keeping and understand the importance of careful, objective and clear recording when recording physical interventions. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC456330

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: Marie Brodie

Registered manager: Melissa Marsh

Inspector

Mary Costello, Social Care Inspector

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