

SC456910

Registered provider: Cambian Childcare Ltd

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This children's home provides care for one child who may have social and emotional difficulties or learning disabilities. At the time of inspection, one child was living in the home.

The registered manager was not in work at the time of this inspection.

Inspection date: 5 November 2024

Date of last inspection: 9 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

The care of children

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

There was one child present during this inspection. The inspector spoke to them during the inspection.

During the last inspection concerns were raised about the day-to-day routine of the child, educational progress, knowledge of the child's social media use and management oversight of the care provided. Three of the recommendations from the previous inspection are met. One remains in place in relation to the leadership and management of the home.

Staff have trusted relationships with the child in their care. The staff respond to the child in a caring and non-judgemental way. They are supporting them to grow in confidence and independence. Staff talk to the child about lots of different aspects of their life, allowing them to feel listened to and valued.

The child has made positive educational progress. They now attend full time school and has clear educational targets in place for this academic year. Staff support them to recognise the importance of education and the positive impact it will have on their future.

Staff have been able to develop better routines for the child. This has improved their sleep routine and diet. Mobile phone checks now take place daily to support the child to remain safe online. However, no clear guidance has been made available on the broad spectrum of apps that could be accessed by the child or how they work and how they may cause harm to the child.

Room checks to help safeguard the child take place daily. The child consents to these taking place and understands why the staff are doing them. However, practice is inconsistent in terms of the records of staff's findings and who has completed the checks. Management oversight of this process is also lacking.

The safety of children

Staff have responded to safeguarding concerns in a timely manner, following the protocol in place to ensure the child is kept safe. There is effective multi-agency working with external professionals to ensure that any concerns the child has are reported and acted on quickly. Staff ensure the safety of the child is taken seriously by external agencies and advocate for the correct support.

There is effective communication and safety planning with the child's allocated social worker. Staff make sure safety plans are reviewed so that they do not place unnecessary restrictions on the child.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers

The registered manager was not present for this inspection.

The deputy manager of the home has worked tirelessly to ensure there is no significant impact on the child's day-to-day care in the absence of the registered manager.

In the absence of full management oversight, there has been an impact on the consistency of care provided by staff. There needs to be a greater understanding by senior management of the impact this is having, so that a plan can be formulated to address this shortfall.

The deputy manager has been proactive in requesting additional training for staff to be able to meet the child's specific needs.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
09/07/2024	Full	Requires improvement to be good
27/09/2023	Full	Outstanding
02/08/2022	Full	Good
09/12/2021	Interim	Sustained 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 leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children's home that— helps the children aspire to fulfil their potential; and promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— ensure that the home's workforce provides continuity of care to 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. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(e)(f)) This directly relates to the registered person implementing an effective monitoring system to fully understand the care being provided by all staff and evaluate that care, in order to safeguard and promote the child's well-being.	02 January 2025

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that staff have clear guidance in place to help them identify when the child is at risk of harm from their online activity. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 43, paragraph 9.12)
- The registered person should ensure there are clear arrangements in place to maintain effective management of the home when they are absent. ('Guide to the

Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 54, paragraph 10.20)

- The registered person should ensure that staff carefully record information about the child in a clear and consistent way. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC456910

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: Cera Pudney

Registered manager: Beverley Goode

Inspector

Hannah Spencer-Townesend, Social Care Inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2024