

SC456910

Registered provider: Cambian Childcare Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home provides care and accommodation for up to two children. It is owned and operated by a national provider of children's services. The home looks after children who may display complex emotional and behavioural needs and/or a learning disability.

The registered manager has been in post since 2013.

Inspection date: 9 December 2021

Date of last inspection: 14 July 2021

Judgement at last inspection: Requires improvement to be good

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 requires improvement to be good at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection, Ofsted judged that it has sustained effectiveness.

Nurturing care is provided by a dedicated and resilient staff team overseen by a committed registered manager and her deputy manager. The team has the capacity to provide good long-term care to children. However, shortly following the last full inspection in July 2021, one child moved on from the home and the remaining child has been given notice to leave. In both cases, and after much effort, the children's needs could not be met by the team.

The home has worked in close collaboration with the remaining child's social worker and with his school. There is unanimous agreement that the environment and location of the home no longer meet the child's needs. In addition, the required approach to his personal care needs has changed since he moved into the home. The manager has made it clear that the team cannot accommodate this changed approach.

The situation with the child is not sustainable, and there have been some incidents of assaults on staff. These are unacceptable, and the registered manager should consider notifying Ofsted and other relevant agencies of each event. Conversely, the home has helped the child to make progress in several areas. These include relationship development, self-management of negative feelings and broadening his experiences considerably by the involvement in an excellent range of leisure activities. There is good evidence that the child is listened to, valued and his views are acted on.

Since the last full inspection, there have not been any occasions when the child has gone missing from home or any incidents of physical restraint. One complaint was received from a neighbour, and this has been addressed appropriately. The requirements made at the last full inspection have been addressed.

The house is currently not a welcoming place for children or for adults. In general, redecoration and some homely touches are required. The staff sleep-in room does not provide a pleasant place for hard-working staff to sleep while on shift.

The registered manager has good oversight of the home and the records. Care planning documents are well written and clearly direct the team in how to care for the child. One omission was noted in relation to a risk assessment for one aspect of personal care needs for the child.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
14/07/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good
25/06/2019	Full	Good
10/12/2018	Full	Good
11/01/2018	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, 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 positive relationship standard is that children are helped to develop, and to benefit from, relationships based on— mutual respect and trust; an understanding about acceptable behaviour; and positive responses to other children and adults In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— de-escalates confrontations with or between children, or potentially violent behaviour by children. (Regulation 11 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2)(a)(xi)) This relates specifically to ensuring that staff are protected from being assaulted.	9 December 2021
The protection of children standard is that children are enabled to keep themselves safe and protected from harm. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure— that staff— assess whether each child is at risk of harm, taking into account information in the child's relevant plans, and if necessary, make arrangements to reduce the risk of harm to the child. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)) In particular, ensure that all aspect of the child's personal care needs are assessed, and procedures are put in place to mitigate any hazards.	9 December 2021

Recommendation

- The registered person should improve the quality of décor and personalised touches in the home and ensure that the staff sleep-in room is a pleasant and comfortable space. ('Guide to the children's homes regulations including the quality standards, page 15, paragraph 3.9).

Information about this inspection

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.

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: SC456910

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: Nicola McClements

Registered manager: Beverley Goode

Inspectors

Michelle Oxley, Social Care Inspector

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