

SC457137

Registered provider: Cambian Childcare Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

The home is owned by a national provider and offers care for one child who experiences social and emotional difficulties.

The manager was registered with Ofsted in November 2021.

Inspection dates: 6 and 7 January 2026

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account	good
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	good
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: 27 November 2024

Overall judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
27/11/2024	Full	Good
04/07/2023	Full	Good
29/11/2022	Full	Good
08/06/2021	Full	Good

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

One child was living at the home at the time of the inspection. The inspector spent time speaking to the child. The child recognises that there have been positive changes in their life because of living at the home, including significant changes to their routine and being helped to abstain from using substances.

The child has made good progress from their starting point. Staff are proactive in encouraging and providing opportunities for the child to develop confidence, improve their self-care and establish positive daily routines. Staff support is consistent and child-focused, which has helped the child to make sustained changes.

The child accesses education on a part-time timetable. Various changes have been made to support the child to engage with an educational provision that meets their needs. A new plan is in place which includes teachers attending the home to build positive relationships with the child. Staff have been actively involved in supporting the child to engage with formal education and work closely with the school to help them learn about the child's unique needs. On days when the child is not in school, there are planned educational activities in the home and staff actively encourage the child to engage with these.

The child's move into the home was well planned and informed by professionals and family members who know them well. The child was supported by family members when visiting the home and this helped them to settle quickly.

Staff ensure that the child spends meaningful time with people who are important to them. They make good efforts to help arrange and facilitate this time. The child feels listened to and says that they are happy with the arrangements that are in place to support these relationships.

The child has individual goals and targets; however, these are not always focused on the most pertinent issues affecting the child's progress. In addition, plans to support further progress are not consistently understood by staff, which limits their overall effectiveness. While this does not significantly impact the quality of care being provided, it does reduce the potential for the child to make even more progress.

How well children and young people are helped and protected: good

Staff have a good understanding of the child's individual needs and risks. They are clear about safeguarding procedures and understand the protocols in place to keep children safe. Staff engage in meaningful conversations with the child to help them understand the risks they face and issues that are important in their life.

Staff demonstrate a good understanding of the therapeutic approach that the home adopts. Their empathetic and non-judgmental approach helps the child to understand their behaviours and think about safer ways of managing their emotions.

When there are concerns around the child using substances, staff respond in a warm, caring and non-judgemental manner. They encourage the child to be open and honest and use a trauma-informed approach to help manage situations sensitively and effectively. Room searches are carried out, when necessary, with the child's consent, which helps maintain trusting relationships.

There have been four missing-from-home incidents since the previous inspection. When these occur, staff follow protocols and contact the police accordingly. Staff search diligently for the child and try to remain in contact with them. Staff make good efforts to contact the child's wider network, and this helps bring the child home safely. Safety planning meetings are held with the wider professional network to explore additional support that may help to keep the child safe.

The manager has oversight of significant incidents; however, records do not always capture robust reflection on staff practice. While this does not impact on the child's immediate safety, it would support further learning and development of staff.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The manager is experienced and committed to their role. They have a good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses in practice and have good plans in place to further develop it within the home. Staff speak exceptionally highly of the manager, who they describe as being committed, leading from the heart and consistently going above and beyond to provide emotional and practical support.

Team meetings take place regularly and are a forum for the team to come together and discuss the child, the progress they are making and any difficulties in caring for them. Staff also benefit from regular supervision which considers their training and development needs. However, more could be done to ensure that there is robust reflection around significant incidents, to fully embed any learning from these events.

Staff engage with training which is relevant to the needs of the child in the home. They complete bespoke training before children move into the home, which prepares them to manage complex needs with confidence, knowledge and skill. Staff feel that this training equips them with knowledge to respond effectively to the child's risks.

External professionals speak highly of the manager and consider that the staff are providing a high standard of care for the child and that there is good multi-agency working. A social care professional said that before moving to the home, the child was facing life-threatening risks, but that they are now thriving because of the care provided by the staff. Family members feel that they have strong relationships with staff, and they are impressed with the support that the child receives to maintain meaningful connections.

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 quality and purpose of care standard is that children receive care from staff who— understand the children's home's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children; use this understanding to deliver care that meets children's needs and supports them to fulfil their potential In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— understand and apply the home's statement of purpose; ensure that staff— provide personalised care that meets each child's needs, as recorded in the child's relevant plans, taking account of the child's background; help each child to develop resilience and skills that prepare the child to return home, to live in a new placement or to live independently as an adult. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2) (a)(b) (iv)(v)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that plans that monitor and promote children's targets and goals are relevant to the most pertinent issues facing children, and that these are well understood and implemented by staff.	16 February 2026

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that following significant incidents, there is robust reflection around staff practice to ensure continued learning and sustaining good practice. This reflection and lessons learned should include and/or be

disseminated to all staff. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 55, paragraph 10.24)

Information about this 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: SC457137

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Cambian Childcare Limited

Registered provider address: 4th Floor Parkview, 82 Oxford Road, Uxbridge UB8 1UX

Responsible individual: Nicola McClements

Registered manager: Zoe Pollington

Inspector

Minnette Sims, Social Care Inspector

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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

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