

SC467704

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 up to 2 children who may experience social and emotional difficulties.

At the time of the first day of inspection, one child was living in the home. At the time of the second day of inspection, no children were living in the home.

The manager was registered in September 2024.

The inspection started on 29 April 2026. An inspector returned on 2 June 2026 to gather additional evidence in line with [Ofsted inspections and visits: deferring, pausing and gathering additional evidence](#) policy.

Inspection dates: 29 April and 2 June 2026

Date of last inspection: 22 July 2025

Judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At this inspection, the inspectors 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 identified the following serious concerns in relation to the care or protection of children at this assurance inspection:

- Children accessed a known high-risk environmental hazard on more than one occasion, resulting in life-threatening incidents and one child sustaining serious injury.
- Known risks were not managed in practice effectively. Risk assessments and plans did not accurately reflect the level of risk or ensure consistent, timely preventative measures.
- Opportunities to identify escalating risks, implement effective control measures and learn from previous incidents were missed, leading to repeated incidents.
- Leaders demonstrate insight into the required improvements and have taken some action; however, changes were not implemented swiftly enough at the time to prevent further harm.

Summary of findings

Following an assurance inspection on 29 April 2026 and a return visit on 2 June 2026 to gather additional evidence, serious concerns were identified in relation to the care and protection of the children living at the home.

The impact of children's needs and histories was not fully considered before children moved into the home. This resulted in risks that were not sufficiently anticipated or effectively planned for. Risk assessments, including the risk assessment of the local area, were not robust. They did not fully reflect known environmental hazards or provide clear, cohesive strategies to manage risks such as self-harm, suicidal ideation and concerning shared behaviours. Managers have since begun to review and strengthen these arrangements; however, improvements were not implemented in time to prevent significant incidents and serious harm to children.

Leaders, managers and staff do not take all opportunities to identify patterns of concern, respond to escalating risk and learn from previous incidents. As a result, staff responses are not always sufficiently proactive to mitigate developing risks and concerns. While leaders communicate with partners about risks to children, they do not always escalate concerns quickly enough when partners' responses are not sufficiently urgent. This contributes to situations where children are harmed.

Safeguarding plans and documents contain ambiguous language. These do not provide staff with sufficient clarity about their roles in managing risk. As a result, safeguarding measures are not consistently implemented in practice. Agreed safety actions, including the use of door alarms and supervision arrangements, have not been put in place quickly enough to prevent children from coming to harm.

Leaders recognise that staff need updates to their training and this work has been started. Staff do not always fully understand children's behaviours, recognise early signs of increasing risk or respond in a consistent and proactive way.

Leaders demonstrate some insight into the concerns found during this visit. They have begun to take some action in response to incidents. This includes strengthening plans, increasing staffing and working closely with external professionals. However, learning from incidents with one child was not embedded quickly enough to reduce the risk of a similar incident occurring.

While there have been very serious incidents, staff do help children to work towards their goals. Children attend education, and the home recognises each child's individuality. One child said that staff's support is helpful, and they have been able to take part in activities they enjoy. Staff also make sure that children are involved in decisions about their daily lives, including how their bedrooms are decorated, the food they eat and the activities they take part in. One child left the home at short notice following a serious incident. Staff have provided ongoing support to them to ensure there is a period of continuity of care and support.

Leaders and managers are visible and accessible within the home, fostering positive relationships with children. They also ensure that staff have regular supervision where they can discuss practice.

Ofsted will continue to monitor the home. No further admissions are planned at this time, to allow for reflection, completion of training and to build staff confidence.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
22/07/2025	Full	Good
02/12/2024	Full	Good
27/02/2024	Full	Good
12/12/2022	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 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 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 any harm to the child; help each child to understand how to keep safe; have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm; manage relationships between children to prevent them from harming each other; take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; and 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; that the premises used for the purposes of the home are located so that children are effectively safeguarded. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(vi)(b)(c)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that risk assessments fully identify all known risks, including environmental hazards, and set out clear and effective strategies for staff to follow in order to reduce and manage these risks in practice.	28 August 2026

Furthermore, the registered person must ensure that children's safety plans are effective and implemented in practice as promptly as necessary. Staff must take consistent and effective action to support children to make safer choices and reduce the risk of harm.	
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; and promotes their welfare. In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to— ensure that staff have the experience, qualifications and skills to meet the needs of each child; ensure that the home has sufficient staff to provide care for each child; 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; use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c)(d)(e)(f)(h)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that there is consistent and effective management oversight of safeguarding practice, including the timely evaluation of incidents and the provision of clear direction to staff. Furthermore, the registered person must ensure that learning from incidents is clearly identified, shared with the staff team and embedded in practice without delay in order to strengthen safeguarding arrangements. Additionally, the registered person must ensure that there are sufficient numbers of staff deployed at all times to safely	28 August 2026

manage identified risks, including putting in place waking night staff where this is required. Leaders should also ensure that staff receive up-to-date training to support their care of children, for example in suicide prevention, self-harm, attachment and trauma-informed approaches, and that this learning is consistently and effectively applied in practice.	
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— that children are admitted to the home only if their needs are within the range of needs of children for whom it is intended that the home is to provide care and accommodation, as set out in the home’s statement of purpose; that arrangements are in place to— manage and review the placement of each child in the home; and that each child’s relevant plans are followed; that the child’s placing authority is contacted, and a review of that child’s relevant plans is requested, if— the registered person considers that the child is at risk of harm or has concerns that the care provided for the child is inadequate to meet the child’s needs. (Regulation 14 (1)(a) (2)(a)(b)(ii)(c)(e)(i)) In particular, the registered person must ensure that children’s needs are fully assessed and that care planning includes consideration of the context and interaction of children’s risks, needs and vulnerabilities. The registered person must ensure that there are clear and effective strategies in place to manage these safely in practice.	28 August 2026

Recommendation

- The registered person should ensure that the language used to record information relating to safety plans and risk assessments is clear, fit for purpose and factual. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC467704

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Cambian Childcare LTD

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

Responsible individual: Esther Irwin

Registered manager: Paul Jordan

Inspectors

Hannah Spencer-Townesend, Social Care Inspector
Karen Hallam, 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 2026