

SC476270

Registered provider: Cambian Childcare Limited

Assurance inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned by a large private provider. It is registered to provide care for up to five children. Children are likely to have emotional and behavioural difficulties and may have experienced trauma.

The manager was registered in May 2023 and is currently working towards her qualification.

Inspection date: 8 November 2023

Date of last inspection: 4 May 2023

Judgement at last inspection: good

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

Information about this inspection

At this inspections, 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'.

Outcome 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.

Findings from the inspection

At the time of the inspection, there were two children living in the home. One child has recently moved in, and one child has left. Children's experiences of moving into and out of the home are generally positive. Staff make efforts to reduce children's anxieties by visiting them or supporting them to visit their new placements.

Ofsted carried out an inspection due to a rise in concerns relating to one child. However, children were not found to be at risk of harm during the inspection. This is because staff and managers understand children's needs, behaviours and risks well and know how to keep them safe. This means that children are being supported to make positive progress and reduce their risks over time.

Staff respond appropriately to children who go missing from the home. They understand the missing-from-care protocols; they search for children and report them missing to the police. Staff locate children quickly and ensure that they return home positively. Additionally, staff explore children's emotions and reasons for running away. This allows children to feel well cared for.

There have been several allegations made by one child against staff. Leaders and managers responses to allegations are proactive. They share information with relevant agencies and ensure the child is spoken to by someone independent. However, in contrast, there have been occasions when staff have not shared information with leaders and managers in a timely manner.

One child has been involved in several restraints since moving into the home. Restraints have been proportionate and well managed by staff. Staff use de-escalation techniques to reduce risk where possible. Leaders and managers help children and staff to share their views after each incident. This means children are reassured and kept safe.

There have been improvements to training since the last inspection. Staff have completed training specific to meeting children's needs. To inform their practice, they are also completing training in relation to children's attachments and therapeutic approaches. Additionally, staff say they enjoy working in the home and feel well supported by the manager.

The manager has good oversight of the home. She has monitoring systems to ensure that the quality of care provided for children is maintained or improved. The manager advocates for children and ensures that professionals are appropriately

challenged when their conduct or actions are not in the best interests of the child. For example, the manager has escalated concerns to the police regarding excessive force being used with one child.

The two requirements from the previous inspection have been met.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
04/05/2023	Full	Good
08/06/2022	Full	Requires improvement to be good
05/10/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good
19/07/2021	Full	Inadequate

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 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— Understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(v)) This specifically relates to the registered manager ensuring that staff share safeguarding information with them within appropriate timescales.	1 December 2023

Children's home details

Unique reference number: SC476270

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: Deborah Robertson-Kesterton

Registered manager: Harlie Sayer

Inspector

Carl Wilton, Social Care Inspector

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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Textphone: 0161 618 8524
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