

SC476270

Registered provider: Cambian Childcare Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

A large private provider owns this home. It provides care for up to five children who may have had adverse childhood experiences.

The home is led by a manager who registered with Ofsted in May 2023.

Since the last inspection, no children have moved into or left the home. At the time of this inspection, two children were living at the home.

Inspection date: 18 January 2024

This monitoring visit

Ofsted last visited this children's home on 8 November 2023, to conduct an assurance inspection. At that inspection, no serious or widespread concerns were identified. The purpose of this monitoring visit was to review the safety and well-being of children following Ofsted receiving information in the independent visitor reports relating to the safeguarding of children.

The two children living at this home spoke to the inspector. They continue to like living at the home and spoke positively about the staff who care for them. The children say they feel safe and well cared for. One child said the staff are helping them with their planned move to their new foster parents' home.

The home is equipped to meet children's needs. There is an emphasis on making the environment as homely as it can be. However, when there is damage to the home, there is a significant delay in carrying out repairs. After almost two months, there is still graffiti and some damage in one child's bedroom. This poor experience does not always show children that they are valued.

Staff only physically intervene to keep children and others safe as a last resort. The manager reviews how staff manage challenging incidents to continually improve practice. Debriefs are carried out with the children and the staff members involved. This helps staff to reflect on incidents to continually improve their practice. However, incident reports and physical intervention reports are not always clear. For example, related documents and reports sometimes contradict each other. This creates confusion and means that managers may mistakenly raise or miss concerns.

Clinical support provides staff with guidance to understand how to respond when children need emotional support. However, agreed strategies are not always put into practice and, on occasion, staff responses are punitive. For example, one child was told that if behaviours that challenge continued, staff would not want to come in and work with him. This poor practice creates confusion for the children, whose behaviours have then escalated to injuring each other, injuring staff and causing damage to the home.

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, 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— ensure that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed and furnished so as to— meet the needs of each child; and enable each child to participate in the daily life of the home. (Regulation 6 (1)(a)(b) (2)(c)(i)(ii)) This specifically relates to ensuring that the registered person takes swift and effective action to repair any damage in the home, particularly to children's bedrooms.	4 March 2024

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that staff are familiar with the home's policies on record-keeping and understand the importance of careful, objective and clear recording. Staff should record information on individual children in a non-stigmatising way that distinguishes between fact, opinion and third-party information. Information about the child must always be recorded in a way that will be helpful to the child. This specifically relates to ensuring that reports are clear and accurate. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 62, paragraph 14.4)

- The registered person is responsible for leading a team which provides high quality care for all children living in the home. They must lead and manage the home in a way that delivers the ethos, outcomes and approach set out in the home's statement of purpose. In particular, where there is a complex trauma approach, staff should incorporate this into their daily practice. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 52, paragraph 10.4)

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the children's home since its last Ofsted inspection.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

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

Kev Brammer, Social Care Inspector

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