

Children's homes – Interim inspection

Inspection date	07/02/2017
Unique reference number	SC457553
Type of inspection	Interim
Provision subtype	Children's home
Registered provider	Cambian Childcare Ltd
Registered provider address	4th Floor, Waterfront, Hammersmith Embankment, London, W6 9RU

Responsible individual	Sharon Edney
Registered manager	Post Vacant
Inspector	Polly Soper

Inspection date	07/02/2017
Previous inspection judgement	Good
Enforcement action since last inspection	None
This inspection	
<p>The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection</p> <p>This home was judged good at the last full inspection. At this interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has declined in effectiveness.</p> <p>The requirement made at the last inspection in respect of the use of door alarms at the home has been met. Door alarms are not currently being used, which is in line with the current care plans for young people.</p> <p>Young people are attending education on a full-time basis and their attainment is good. Young people are also fully supported to engage in activities outside of education. There are a number of certificates for young people's achievements displayed at the home, which supports the development of their self-esteem.</p> <p>Young people have clear targets in order to support their progression into independence. Tools used provide good visual aids for young people, and these enable them to see the progress that they are making.</p> <p>The acting manager has streamlined risk assessments to ensure that they are effective and are focused on current risks. This ensures that staff can access important information more easily.</p> <p>The acting manager is also providing good supervision to staff which challenges poor practice effectively, and seeks to promote the standard of care provided to young people.</p> <p>Staff are providing appropriate behaviour management for young people; however, praise is not consistently recorded. This does not enable young people to view the positive progress that they are making in this respect.</p> <p>One young person spoken with spoke very fondly of their home, and could easily identify three staff members whom they can talk to if they have any concerns. This young person also commented that they felt happy and safe in their home.</p> <p>A social worker spoken with during the inspection commented that staff provide young people with unconditional acceptance, which has enabled one young person to settle very well. This young person had previously had to move homes on a number of occasions.</p>	

Leaders and managers are not ensuring that important information is shared with outside agencies in a robust way. Feedback logs describe daily tasks and activities rather than providing much-needed analysis of concerning patterns in behaviour. This has meant that the harmful behaviour of one young person has not been challenged effectively.

Leaders and managers are also not ensuring that verbal communication with other professionals is promoted in order to safeguard young people who live both at the home and outside of it.

Leaders and managers are not ensuring that confidential information is securely stored. During this inspection, the door to a room where case records are kept was left wide open. No staff were on site at this time and maintenance work was being undertaken.

There is currently no registered manager for this home. The process to ensure that this role is filled has begun. However, this needs to happen in a timely manner to promote a good standard of care for young people.

Information about this children's home

The home is registered to look after up to two children who may have behavioural and/or emotional difficulties. The home is owned by a large national company.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
24/11/2016	Full	Good
09/02/2016	Interim	Sustained effectiveness
06/10/2015	Full	Good
18/03/2015	Interim	Declined in effectiveness

What does the children's home need to do to improve?

Statutory requirements

This section sets out the actions which must be taken so that the registered person(s) meets 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
<p>In order to meet this requirement, the registered person must ensure that:</p> <p>In meeting the quality standards, the registered person must, and must ensure that staff—</p> <p>(a) seek to involve each child's placing authority in the child's care effectively, in accordance with the child's relevant plans;</p> <p>(b) seek to secure the input and services required to meet each child's needs;</p> <p>(c) if the registered person considers, or staff consider, a placing authority's or a relevant person's performance or response to be inadequate in relation to their role, challenge the placing authority or the relevant person to seek to ensure that each child's needs are met in accordance with the child's relevant plans; and</p> <p>(d) seek to develop and maintain effective professional relationships with such persons, bodies or organisations as the registered person considers appropriate having regard to the range of needs of children for whom it is intended that the children's home is to provide care and accommodation.</p> <p>In particular, information regarding children's needs must be shared with outside agencies in an effective way within feedback logs. In order to ensure that care planning robustly promotes positive progress for children and young people.</p>	31/03/2017
<p>12: The protection of children standard</p> <p>(1) The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe.</p> <p>(2) In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—</p> <p>(a) that staff—</p> <p>(i) 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;</p>	28/02/2017

<p>(ii) help each child to understand how to keep safe;</p> <p>(iii) have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm;</p> <p>(iv) manage relationships between children to prevent them from harming each other;</p> <p>(v) understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person;</p> <p>(vi) take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare;</p> <p>In particular, risk issues must be communicated with other professionals effectively, and in a timely manner and consistent manager. In order to ensure that all children and young people inclusive of those living outside of the home are protected from any potential harm.</p>	
<p>27: Appointment of manager</p> <p>(1) The registered provider must appoint a person to manage the children's home if—</p> <p>(a) there is no registered manager in respect of the home.</p> <p>There is currently no registered manager assigned to the home. This needs to be addressed as soon as possible.</p>	<p>31/03/2017</p>
<p>36: Children's case records</p> <p>(1) The registered person must maintain records ('case records') for each child which—</p> <p>(c) securely in the children's home during the period when the child to whom the case records relate is accommodated there.</p> <p>In particular, confidential information must be kept securely. This includes documents that are waiting to be archived.</p>	<p>28/02/2017</p>

What the inspection judgements mean

At the interim inspection we make a judgement on whether the home has improved in effectiveness, sustained effectiveness, or declined in effectiveness since the previous full inspection. This is in line with the 'Inspection of children's homes: framework for inspection'.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people living in the children's home. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the difference that adults make to the lives of children and young people. They read case files, watched how professional staff work with children, young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care given to children and young people. Wherever possible, they talked to children, young people and their families. In addition, the inspectors have tried to understand what the children's home knows about how well it is performing, how well it is doing and what difference it is making for the children and young people who it is trying to help, protect and look after.

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.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000 to assess the effectiveness of the service 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'.

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