

1159397

Registered provider: Cambian Childcare Limited

Interim inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

A private company owns this home. The home provides a programme for approximately a year for young females who have experienced or are at risk of sexual exploitation. It is likely that these young people will also have emotional, social and/or behavioural difficulties as a result of their experiences.

The aim is to provide an individualised approach, with education, clinical and care professionals working together in support of a young person's care. This is intended to create a support package that will best meet the needs of each young person. This is regularly monitored through team-around-the-child meetings.

The provider runs an independent school at a different location, that the young people attend.

The manager has been in post for approximately 18 months and is registered with Ofsted.

Inspection date: 15 January 2019

Judgement at last inspection: requires improvement to be good

Date of last inspection: 13 June 2018

Enforcement action since last inspection: none

This inspection

The effectiveness of the home and the progress and experiences of children and young people since the most recent full inspection

This home was judged requires improvement to be good at the last full inspection.

At the interim inspection, Ofsted judges that it has declined in effectiveness.

There have been a number of recent significant concerns that relate to the effectiveness with which staff safeguard young people. The young people have been able to gain access to the staff offices and acquire prescribed medication, money, door keys and the alarm system key. They have tampered with office computers and have had access to confidential information. There have been past incidents when young people have forced their way into the office.

The provider is taking appropriate action now to prevent future occurrences. These recent incidents demonstrate that there has been insufficient action to review staff deployment and security of the office.

During these recent incidents there has been poor communication between staff about information relating to the safety of the young people. Staff have failed to remove in a timely manner items that pose a risk to the young people, despite being advised to do so by the police. This demonstrates the inability of staff to effectively safeguard the young people.

The staff have not been able to effectively manage the challenging behaviour of young people but have relied on the police to support them to do so. In the week before the inspection, the provider increased the staffing levels. This did not prevent the young people from gaining access to the office, once again, and barricading themselves in one of the bedrooms.

One of the requirements at the last inspection was to ensure that the home's day-to-day care is arranged and delivered so as to keep each young person safe. This has not been the case, and recent events demonstrate that the day-to-day care is less effective than at the last inspection.

The provider is taking these issues seriously, and has commissioned an independent investigation to assist in reviewing and improving practice. The office door has been made more secure and the deployment of staff has been reviewed. Leaders have delivered workshops to staff about office security and the supervision of young people and senior managers are overseeing an improvement plan.

Since the last inspection there have been two unplanned placement endings. These were due to the changing needs of the young people and the decisions made to safeguard other young people in the home. There has been one planned admission, with appropriate pre-admission assessments and consideration of the likely impact that a new young person may have on the others.

The education attendance of young people has been better than prior to their admission, but was declining towards the end of last term. There are suitable education plans in place to promote young people's progress, and staff encourage high levels of attendance.

The young people have positive relationships with the staff and did build relationships with each other, leading to enjoying joint activities. This social aspect of life is important

as the young people have limited free time, due to the risk of child sexual exploitation.

Recently, there has been a negative impact from the young people being together, leading to risks of entering the criminal justice system. Leaders had started to build positive working relationships with the local police authority. This has stalled, and they recognise the need to start this up again for the benefit of the young people. There is good information-sharing with the local authority, and this contributes to the risk-management strategies in place in the home. For example, the manager and staff are aware of local 'hotspots' that would be a significant risk to the young people.

The manager is open and transparent, and is committed to making improvements. She has addressed all but one of the requirements and recommendations from the last inspection. Consequently, there are improvements in reducing the risk of young people's self-injurious behaviour. There is a better working relationship with the local authority and appropriate challenge to placing authorities to fulfil their responsibilities to the young people.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
13/06/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be good
13/03/2018	Full	Requires improvement to be good
20/11/2017	Full	Inadequate
18/08/2017	Interim	Declined in effectiveness

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
<p>*The protection of children standard is that children are protected from harm and enabled to keep themselves safe.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure–</p> <p>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. (Regulation 12(1)(2)(b))</p> <p>In particular, review and take appropriate action to prevent young people from barricading themselves in their rooms and inappropriately entering the staff offices. Ensure that communication between staff on different shifts includes relevant safeguarding information. In accordance with young people’s plans, ensure that the young people are not able to lock away risky items. Staff must take prompt action to secure from young people items that pose a risk to their welfare. Ensure that there are appropriate staffing levels and that staff have the experience and skills to effectively manage the behaviour of the young people.</p>	<p>28/02/2019</p>

* These requirements are subject to a compliance notice.

Information about this inspection

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people. Inspectors considered the quality of work and the difference made to the lives of children and young people. They watched how professional staff work with children and young people and each other and discussed the effectiveness of help and care provided. Wherever possible, they talked to children and 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 whom 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.

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: 1159397

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Cambian Childcare Limited

Registered provider address: 4th floor, Waterfront Manbre Wharf, Manbre Road, Hammersmith, London, Middlesex W6 9RH

Responsible individual: Christopher Leeson

Registered manager: Jean Gordon

Inspector

Simon Morley, social care inspector

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