

1159397

Cambian Childcare Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned and managed by a private provider. Care is provided for up to three children aged between 11 and 18 years. The home provides a therapeutic programme for children who have experienced, or are at risk of, sexual exploitation. At the time of this monitoring visit, one child was living in the home.

The home registered in March 2016. There has been no registered manager in post since June 2021. The appointed manager is responsible for the day-to-day running of the home, and they have recently applied to register with Ofsted.

During this visit, the inspector was aware that serious child protection allegations were being investigated by the appropriate authorities. While Ofsted does not have the power to investigate allegations of this kind, actions taken by the setting in response to the allegations were considered (where appropriate) alongside other evidence available at the time of the inspection to inform the inspector's judgements.

Inspection date: 14 June 2022

This monitoring visit

This children's home was judged inadequate at the full inspection on 4 and 5 May 2022, because there were significant shortfalls in the leadership and management of the home and in the safety and protection of children. Consequently, despite some progress for some children, their overall experiences were inadequate. As a result of this failure, children's safety was compromised. Ofsted issued two compliance notices under regulations 12 and 13.

The purpose of this monitoring visit was to review the progress and actions taken to meet the compliance notices. This monitoring visit included the review of documents and discussions with the manager, the responsible individual, staff and the child living in this home.

The inspector concluded from this monitoring visit that one step set in the compliance notice with regard to regulation 12 was not met.

Children's risk assessments do not provide staff with adequate guidance around children's use of technological devices and access to social media. Leaders and managers have not taken effective action to ensure that staff are competent and confident around monitoring children's use of social media. The lack of information and guidance for staff places children at risk of serious harm.

Staff have not followed a child's safety plan. A significant incident has occurred during this monitoring period, where a child has been harmed while out in the community. Staff failed to complete a welfare call to the child, and this reduced staff's contact and oversight of the child when they were away from the home.

The manager has monitoring systems in place to ensure that she is aware of any significant incidents. When incidents occur, the manager has informed all relevant agencies to ensure that children get the necessary support and that safeguarding concerns are investigated.

Internal and external monitoring reports are consistently undertaken at the home, and these are sent to Ofsted. However, these reports do not support practice developments because they do not highlight the shortfalls that affect children.

Staff, including the manager, now receive practice guidance to improve their understanding around their roles and responsibilities, and how these link to the protection and welfare of children. This includes, but is not restricted to, the principles around the management of allegations and whistle-blowing. There is an increase in management presence during the evening, and this provides an opportunity for managers to observe staff practice.

Staff have completed training to develop their understanding of childhood trauma and the impact of child sexual exploitation on children. In addition, staff have completed training to equip them to deliver care that reflects the therapeutic parenting approach as outlined in the home's statement of purpose. This improves practice in the home.

Staff retention and recruitment are ongoing areas for development. The manager, with the responsible individual, has set staffing expectations for this home. These expectations include ensuring that senior staff are working on each shift to maintain acceptable practice standards. No new staff have been appointed and therefore recruitment records have not been reviewed as part of this monitoring visit.

Since the last inspection, no child has moved into or out of this home. The manager has ensured that the local authority where the home is located has an accurate record about children that live in the home. The manager has also ensured that children's case files and documents are adequately archived.

Children live in a home that is free from hazards. The manager's improved oversight of the maintenance of the home means the home is kept to a good standard. Children identify this as their home and welcome the improvements.

The remaining three requirements and one recommendation issued in May 2022 have not been reviewed at this visit and are repeated.

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
04/05/2022	Full	Inadequate
18/11/2021	Interim	Declined in effectiveness
11/08/2021	Full	Requires improvement to be good
30/09/2019	Interim	Sustained 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 staff—</p> <p>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> <p>have the skills to identify and act upon signs that a child is at risk of harm;</p> <p>understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to protecting children that are assigned to them by the registered person;</p> <p>take effective action whenever there is a serious concern about a child's welfare; and</p> <p>are familiar with, and act in accordance with, the home's child protection policies;</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; and</p> <p>that the premises used for the purposes of the home are designed, furnished and maintained so as to protect each child from avoidable hazards to the child's health. (Regulation 12 (1) (2)(a)(i)(iii)(v)(vi)(vii)(b)(d))</p>	14 August 2022
Any person who carries on or manages an establishment or agency of any description without being registered under this	4 July 2022

Part in respect of it (as an establishment or, as the case may be, agency of that description) shall be guilty of an offence. (Section 11 (1) Care Standards Act 2000)	
The care planning standard is that children— have a positive experience of arriving at or moving on from the home. (Regulation 14 (1)(b))	12 June 2022
Restraint in relation to a child is only permitted for the purpose of preventing— injury to any person (including the child); serious damage to the property of any person (including the child); or a child who is accommodated in a secure children's home from absconding from the home. Restraint in relation to a child must be necessary and proportionate. (Regulation 20 (1)(a)(b)(c) (2))	12 June 2022

*These requirements are subject to a compliance notice.

Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure that they maintain good employment practice. They must ensure that the recruitment of staff safeguards children and minimises potential risks to them. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 61, paragraph 13.1)
- The registered person should ensure that their six-monthly regulation 45 review enables them to identify areas of strength and possible weakness in the home's care, which will be captured in the written report. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 65, paragraph 15.4)
- The registered person should ensure that any individual appointed to carry out visits to the home as an independent person must make a rigorous and impartial assessment of the home's arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children in the home's care. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations including the quality standards', page 65, paragraph 15.5)

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: 1159397

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: Mark Ullah

Registered manager: Post vacant

Inspector

Jennifer Fenlon, Social Care Inspector

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