

# SC457318

Registered provider: Cambian Childcare Ltd

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

## Information about this children's home

This children's home provides care for two children who may have social and emotional difficulties or learning disabilities. At the time of this inspection, two children were living in the home.

There is a registered manager in post.

**Inspection dates: 28 and 29 August 2024**

<b>Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account</b>	<b>good</b>
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How well children and young people are helped and protected	good
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The effectiveness of leaders and managers	good
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The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

**Date of last inspection:** 5 March 2024

**Overall judgement at last inspection:** good

**Enforcement action since last inspection:** none

## Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
05/03/2024	Full	Good
28/02/2023	Full	Good
17/08/2021	Full	Good
17/12/2019	Full	Good

## Inspection judgements

### **Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good**

Staff have built trusting and secure relationships with the children. Staff spend time with the children and understand how the children like to communicate. Staff care deeply about the children they work hard to make them feel safe and consistently cared for. The children say they feel safe.

Staff support children to achieve and work closely with educational professionals to ensure children can access education to meet their needs. One child has achieved well in their final year of school and is excited to start college. One child has not been able to fully access formal education. They have been supported by staff to see a future for themselves and experience informal education within the home. The child has been able to learn how to deconstruct and rebuild technology and how to work on motor vehicles, this is something they are interested in for their future career.

Staff support children to express themselves positively. When things happen children's lives, they ask staff for support. One child reached out for support to manage their feelings about starting college. Another child expressed having better communication and understanding of their feelings with the support of staff. One child is now attending specialist support having previously not wanted to do so.

Children are supported to manage their own health needs in line with their age and wishes, which promotes independence. Children are supported to access regular and timely health appointments. Staff have developed effective relationships with significant health professionals in the children's lives. One plan to support the meeting of a child's health needs lacked clarity which may lead to staff not understanding specific care needs.

Staff encourage the children to develop independence skills. The staff support the children to plan, budget, shop and cook regular meals. The manager continues to challenge the placing authority when she has concerns about the future for children who will be leaving care. She has provided a robust overview of each individual child's needs and has plans in place to support further independence skills.

Children spend time with people who are significant to them. Staff have built positive relationships with significant people in children's lives. They appreciate and support these important enduring relationships for children.

### **How well children and young people are helped and protected: good**

Staff ensure children are supported to manage their complex health needs. Staff are aware of and actively work with the children to prevent mismanagement of their health. There are plans in place to store and oversee medication. However, oversight of daily

recordings regarding health needs are not closely monitored to ensure that any changes in children's needs are identified.

Staff support children to manage their feelings and emotions. Staff have had targeted training to be able to respond with sensitivity to children's experiences. They have worked hard to understand how to support them to build emotional resilience. One child has suffered a traumatic bereavement. The staff recognise progress for this child will be impacted by their loss. The trauma and grief they are processing is fully understood by staff and responded to with gentle love and care.

Restraint has been used once in this inspection period. The child was guided away from a situation that was becoming dangerous. There is management oversight of the incident and children are supported to understand what happened and given space to talk about how they felt about it.

There has been one investigation into an allegation of harm while a child was away from the home. The manager ensured there was effective communication with other agencies about this incident and all appropriate referrals were made. She has not been satisfied with the response from the external agency who the child was with at the time of the incident and has appropriately escalated the matter. The child was responded to quickly by staff at the home and given support throughout the investigation.

Staff know children have access to the internet and spend time on several different social media platforms. Staff do not consider that the children are at harm from their social media use or the content they view online. There is no plan in place to fully understand the children's ability to remain safe online, leaving the children vulnerable to possible risks from their internet use.

### **The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good**

There is a stable staff team in place. Staff are experienced and motivated by the manager. They feel supported by the manager and know what they need to do and why. Children's case records reflect their daily experiences. They are written for the children using appropriate child centred terminology.

The manager is instrumental in advocating for the children in her care and challenging when children's needs are not met. The manager seeks to work positively with other agencies and strives to enhance the lives of the children in her care through effective multi-agency working.

The manager has a monitoring system in place to review the quality of care provided. She uses learning from practice to raise standards and is implementing plans to develop the children's independence. Staff work well together to provide consistent and stable care to the children.

The team benefits from regular team and clinical meetings. Whole-team meetings are used to discuss care and reflect on practice. The children are at the centre of these meetings, and they are used effectively to make sure everyone knows what care is needed and the challenges the children may be facing. Clinical supervision enhances the team's knowledge and plans are developed because of clinical oversight.

Supervision sessions are regular and focus on one topic or an overview of the period. Staff well-being, safeguarding and the children's needs are all discussed. Actions are provided for staff development. Supervision sessions give staff the space to discuss practice and promote reflection.

Staff training is closely monitored and additional training is facilitated when required to help promote best outcomes for children. Continued staff development is part of the ethos of the home, for individual professional development and meeting the specific needs of the children.

## 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
<p>The care planning standard is that children—</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to ensure—</p> <p>that arrangements are in place to—</p> <p>plan for, and help, each child to prepare to leave the home or to move into adult care in a way that is consistent with arrangements agreed with the child's placing authority;</p> <p>that the child's placing authority is contacted, and a review of that child's relevant plans is requested, if—</p> <p>the registered person considers that the child is at risk of harm or has concerns that the care provided for the child is inadequate to meet the child's needs.</p> <p>(Regulation 14 (1) (2)(b)(iii)(e)(i))</p> <p>In particular, the registered person should ensure they challenge the placing authority when they have concerns about the future plans for when it is time for a child to leave care.</p> <p>In addition, the registered person needs to be reassured that children are receiving all the benefits they are entitled to, without discrimination, as part of their onward care planning to adulthood.</p>	1 November 2024

### Recommendations

- The registered person should ensure the information that is gathered on a daily basis about the child's health is closely monitored, to promote the positive management of the child's health condition at regular intervals. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 33, paragraph 7.4)

- The registered person should ensure that language in plans for the children's health and well-being is specific and clear to show staff exactly how often they should be checking a child has taken their prescribed medication. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 34, paragraph 7.12)
- The registered person should ensure that staff have plans in place, underpinned by knowledge and skills, to help them identify when the children are at risk of harm from their online activity. ('Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the quality standards', page 43, paragraph 9.12)

## **Information about this inspection**

Inspectors have looked closely at the experiences and progress of children and young people, 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:** SC457318

**Provision sub-type:** Children's home

**Registered provider:** Cambian Childcare Ltd

**Registered provider address:** Metropolitan House, 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar  
EN6 1AG

**Responsible individual:** Danielle Ross

**Registered manager:** Sarah Hamilton

## Inspector

Hannah Spencer-Townsend, Social Care Inspector



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