

2692374

Registered provider: Cambian Autism Services Limited

Full inspection

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This home is owned and managed by a private organisation. It provides care for up to six children with learning disabilities and/or social and emotional difficulties.

One child was living in the home at the time of this inspection.

The manager registered with Ofsted in November 2022.

Inspection dates: 7 and 8 June 2023

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people, taking into account **good**

How well children and young people are helped and protected good

The effectiveness of leaders and managers good

The children's home provides effective services that meet the requirements for good.

Date of last inspection: not previously inspected

Overall judgement at last inspection: not applicable

Enforcement action since last inspection: not applicable

Recent inspection history

Inspection date	Inspection type	Inspection judgement
Not previously inspected		

Inspection judgements

Overall experiences and progress of children and young people: good

The child living in the home has settled well and received all of the information that they needed before moving in. The child has good relationships with the staff who use their time to get to know the child's likes and dislikes and use this information to shape the child's care plans. This helps the child to feel valued and to develop a sense of belonging. The child also has personal targets that help them to gain skills to prepare them for adulthood. The child's efforts are accredited, giving them awards and a sense of achievement.

Attendance in education varies. Sometimes, the child's daily routine and health needs impact on their ability to attend education. The staff work with specialist professionals and regularly take advice on different strategies to support the child. The care staff work closely with education staff to make sure the timetable is tailored to meet the child's needs. Efforts are ongoing in various forms to help the child to attend education.

The child enjoys a range of activities that help them to improve their social skills and confidence. The child chooses what they would like to do, and the staff invest in their interests. This gives the child a sense of well-being and security.

The child accesses a range of health services to meet their needs. The staff support the child to attend their appointments and to understand why these appointments are important. There are a range of on-site services, including occupational therapists, that the child benefits from. These services support their mental well-being and help them to find positive coping strategies.

The staff promote a culture of inclusivity. The child learns about differences and the importance of respect for others. This way of working helps the child to understand the needs of others. It also helps the child to feel comfortable to be themselves. As a result, they grow in confidence and feel able to explore their own identity.

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

The child has an individual risk assessment, which is updated regularly after significant events. The risk assessment covers all known risks and vulnerabilities for the child and provides staff with actions to take to reduce and manage risk positively.

There has been no use of physical restraint. The staff follow the child's behaviour management plans, using a nurturing approach to support the child. These plans are completed in partnership with the therapy team and with the child and focus on de-escalation and distraction. This approach supports the child to learn to manage their behaviours and anxieties.

Risks to the child are reducing. There have been no episodes of the child going missing from home, although the staff know what to do if this does happen. The staff complete training that helps them to understand how to keep the child safe. They know how to report any safeguarding concerns and said that they feel able to do this. The staff receive training that helps them to understand wider risks to children, such as child sexual exploitation and how to stay safe online.

The staff teach the child how to keep safe in everyday situations, such as when learning to cook. This learning is delivered in a way that is specific to the child's individual needs and understanding and helps to prepare them for greater independence.

The effectiveness of leaders and managers: good

The registered manager balances his management duties alongside spending quality time with the child. He leads by example, and the staff team follow his positive style. The responsible individual and the registered manager are working together closely. They are carefully planning their approach to building the foundations of this new service.

Some of the registered manager's recording systems make monitoring difficult. Some information is recorded in different places and on different systems. As a result, the information on some records is up to date, but not on others. This way of recording increases the likelihood of essential information relating to children, or to the running of the service, being lost or misunderstood.

The staff said that they feel well supported by the registered manager. The staff receive regular supervision sessions, where they talk about their practice. These supervision sessions give staff space and time to reflect on the positives of their work and to identify areas of development.

The registered manager produces the required six-monthly monitoring reports. These reports lack an evaluation of the quality of care provided and the impact this has for the child. This prevents the registered manager from producing a focused action plan and is a missed opportunity to continually improve the service.

The registered manager works closely with other professionals. The professionals he works alongside include a range of therapists, educational staff and healthcare services. This way of working ensures information is shared effectively to make sure the child receives the bespoke help and support that they need.

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>In order to complete a quality of care review the registered person must establish and maintain a system for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating—</p> <p>the quality of care provided for children;</p> <p>the feedback and opinions of children about the children’s home, its facilities and the quality of care they receive in it; and</p> <p>any actions that the registered person considers necessary in order to improve or maintain the quality of care provided for children. (Regulation 45 (2)(a)(b)(c))</p>	6 September 2023
<p>The leadership and management standard is that the registered person enables, inspires and leads a culture in relation to the children’s home that—</p> <p>helps children aspire to fulfil their potential; and</p> <p>promotes their welfare.</p> <p>In particular, the standard in paragraph (1) requires the registered person to—</p> <p>use monitoring and review systems to make continuous improvements in the quality of care provided in the home. (Regulation 13 (1)(a)(b) (2)(h))</p>	6 September 2023

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: 2692374

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Cambian Autism Services Limited

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

Responsible individual: Samantha Campbell

Registered manager: Matthew Youngson

Inspectors

Jamie Richardson, Social Care Inspector
Beth Forster, Social Care Inspector

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