Cambian Whinfell School

Statement of Purpose



110 Windermere Road
Kendal
LA9 5EZ

Ofsted Registration Number: SCO66821
DfE Registration Number: URN 134781

Updated October 2026

Cambian Whinfell School

QUALITY AND PURPOSE OF CARE

Cambian Whinfell School
Cambian Whinfell School is part of the Cambian Caretech Group and is a national resource providing education for up to 18 young people (males).
The young people comprise of a combination of day pupils and residential young people who reside across 2 sites. Young people accommodated will be aged between 7 and 19. Young people may continue to reside with us beyond 18 if:

- This reflects the requirements of a young persons' Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education Health and Care Plan.
- There is a plan in place for the young person, created by their Social Worker/Local Authority and Registered Manager, that clearly demonstrates a 'moving on' process and the Registered Manager has completed a risk assessment that demonstrates that the other children in the home/school will not be at risk by living with an adult. The Registered Manager will ensure that numbers of young people aged 18 and over are kept below half the number of places and are included in the numbers that Cambian Whinfell School Ltd. is registered for.

Cambian Whinfell School operates from two sites, in close proximity to each other that are managed as one establishment.

Windermere Road has capacity for up to 10 young people who require close residential support and individual education schemes.

Kendal Green has capacity for up to four young people who require residential support and individual education schemes, but with an additional emphasis on Preparation for Adulthood or working towards a set transition into alternative adult services. Residential staff work over both sites.

The profile of our young people

Our young people:

- Are male, aged 7 – 19 years old
- Have a diagnosis or traits of ASC and possible co-morbidities (ADHD, PDA etc).
- Have mild to moderate learning difficulties. To integrate socially and academically any new admission must be of comparable abilities to the existing cohort.
- Demonstrate a willingness to engage in improving their life-chances, be they academic, communication, social or independent life skills
- Can work, or be seen to have the potential to work, on a one to one or small group basis
- May have challenging behaviour, both reactive and passive

- Will often have been out of school for some time and may come from a family situation in crisis
- At post-16 demonstrate a willingness and ability to follow a pathway to independence programme and to be increasingly able to work independently on academic assignments.

We need to be as sure as possible that although our young people may initially present with challenging behaviours we can feel assured that the change of environment and support put in will reduce behaviours. The physical building is not large and sustained high-level behaviours cannot be managed long-term without a negative impact on house-mates. We will need to feel assured that behaviours are ASC driven. We would not normally accept young people who had significant SEMH needs or underlying serious complex mental health issues. Neither are we a secure setting. We have direct access to town, busy roads and the open countryside. We would need to risk assess carefully if there is a history of going missing from home or using illegal substances. A new young person's needs need to be compatible with the needs of the other young people already present in the school/home at that time.

Ethos and Vision

Staff and young people at Whinfell School work together to overcome the barriers that have often prevented young people from learning. We provide a calm and nurturing environment which enables young people with ASC to lower their anxieties and develop their social and academic skills. Residential and education staff work closely together to provide individual care and education throughout the waking curriculum. Young people are encouraged and supported to achieve their true potential, and to equip them with the skills ready to cope with life and their ASC in the best possible way. We recognise that all our young people are unique and support and care is tailored to ensure the best possible outcomes for all are achieved.

Accommodation

Cambian Whinfell School can accommodate 14 young males (age 7-19) in individual bedrooms over its two sites; ten at the main school site and four at Kendal Green.

Accommodation will be adapted to suit the needs of a young person where practically possible. Given the nature of ASC and possible sensory issues, young people who require a low stimulus environment will be supported with this.

Cambian Whinfell School/Kendal Green has facilities to support the use of sleep in staff. In addition, waking night staff support young people at the main school site.

There are adequate washing, bathing and showering facilities for the number of young people in the school.

Location, Design and Size of the Home

Cambian Whinfell School has been chosen as an appropriate establishment for young people on account of its facilities, location and proximity to community resources:

- The main school site is a large detached house with a homely feel. There are two lounges and a snug / cinema room for young people to enjoy, as well as a communal dining area. There are ten bedrooms within the home, four with en-suite bathrooms. At the rear of the building are the classroom areas.
- Kendal Green is a large semi-detached house in a residential area close to Whinfell School and over-looking the green. It has four bedrooms, two lounges and a kitchen dining room for young people to enjoy.
- Both houses have private enclosed garden areas and are in close proximity to a large green area.
- Each young person placed at Cambian Whinfell School/Kendal Green will have their own bedroom.
- Young people will be provided with a room within the home where they can meet with family, friends and professional representatives in private during any visits.
- The furnishings and internal designs of the school/Kendal Green are of a high standard both aesthetically and from a safety aspect.
- Cambian Whinfell School/Kendal Green are set in a residential area within very close proximity to local amenities and the outside community.
- Cambian Whinfell School/Kendal Green are ideally situated for the open country with the Lake District National Park boundary being a little over a mile away. Lake Windermere is only seven miles from the school building.
- Cambian Whinfell School/Kendal Green has excellent motorway (J36 of the M6 is only 9.5 miles away) and main line rail links (Oxenholme Railway Station is four miles away) affording easy access to families and professional representatives.

Cultural, Linguistic and Religious needs

When placing authorities request a placement for a young person, Senior Managers will meet with the young person, their parents, professionals, representatives and nominated others to identify any cultural, linguistic and religious needs. A placement will only be offered if all can agree that the young person's spiritual, cultural, health, dietary and social needs can be met within the setting and local community. If agreement is reached that all the young person's needs can be met, these will be detailed in their placement plans along with the practical arrangements.

Complaints and Representation

Cambian is committed to providing the highest quality service to Students, parents, local authorities, social services and health authorities. We believe that our Students have the right to comment upon the service provided for them, to be involved in decisions relating to that service and to make complaints where they consider the service is unsatisfactory, for whatever reasons. A 'young person friendly' version of the complaint's procedure has been designed in order to make it accessible to all Students and 'How to Complain' information is publicly displayed in a format which is accessible to the Students in our care as well as to our visitors. If a person acting on behalf of an individual wishes to raise an issue they will be invited to discuss it with the Registered Manager or Principal. If following this discussion,

the individual's representative remains dissatisfied with the outcome, the individual's social worker will be invited to visit.

The individual and their representative can at any time contact OFSTED to raise a complaint. Ofsted
Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD
Email: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk

All complaints are recorded in the Complaints File, which is reviewed by the manager and the Regulation 44 monitoring procedure. Our aim is to be able to deal with any complaints in an informal manner within 3 days to seek a swift resolution. In the event that this is not possible and the complainant wishes to take the formal route, we ensure this is acknowledged, investigated and addressed within an agreed timescale as detailed within our complaints policy and procedures. All staff are trained in this policy and copies are available to parents/carers, authorities and staff and to Students in a simplified format. Posters are displayed on notice boards and leaflets are available for Students and staff on which complaints can be recorded for the attention of our Group Directors. An independent Advocacy Service is available to all young people via NYAS. This is promoted to all young people.

Whistleblowing by Staff
Cambian Whinfell School Ltd takes a very active stance on whistleblowing. The safety of young people is the paramount consideration of the Company and subsequently staff are equipped and encouraged to report concerns and abusive practices to outside agencies when it is felt that they have not or cannot be successfully managed within the Company.

All staff, young people, their parents and social staff are provided with information detailing phone numbers of local and national child protection agencies. As part of the interview process for Cambian Whinfell School Ltd all candidates are asked to demonstrate their awareness and conviction to alert outside agencies in the event of abusive practices.

Safeguarding and Child Protection Procedures
Cambian Whinfell School Ltd has developed its child protection procedures, policy documents, guidance notes and training programme to incorporate Legislation, National and Local Government Policy and Children's Homes Regulations. We fully subscribe to the Cumbria Safeguarding Children Partnership procedures and guidance.

The Registered Manager, Principal, Care Manager's and Deputy Head are all trained in Multi-Agency Safeguarding to Level 3 standard.

All staff are given safeguarding and child protection training as part of their induction programme. It also features heavily in INSET training subjects.

Parents, placing authorities, social workers and significant others can be issued with a copy of the safeguarding and child protection procedures upon request.

Behaviour Support
Cambian Whinfell School offers support to young people whose condition may also present with challenging behaviour. It is with this in mind that Cambian Whinfell School has structured its behaviour management policies and procedures to reflect both the needs of the individual and those working/living around them.

Each young person placed at Cambian Whinfell School will have an Individual Behaviour Support Plan (IBSP) which will have been set out and agreed by Cambian Whinfell School Ltd, the young person, their parents/advocate, social worker and other relevant professionals from the placing authority.

The IBSP is underpinned by a set of working documents which set out:

- Detailed information of a young person's presenting behaviours
- Preferred de-escalation strategies
- Preferred methods of physical intervention when de-escalation techniques have been unsuccessful
- Calming and after care plans to follow on from a physical intervention

An IBSP is an integral part of an overall care plan and is designed to keep young people safe whilst pathways are identified for more positive expression of anger, frustration and emotional distress.

Parents, placing authorities, social workers and significant others can be issued with a copy of the Behaviour Support Policy upon request.

Dealing with Violence and Aggression
All staff at Whinfell School are trained in Safety Intervention based on Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) principles of restrictive and non-restrictive practices. Staff are assessed by qualified instructors as to their competence at delivering CPI responses and interventions. Within each young person's IBSP will be clear guidance upon 'agreed' preferred techniques to safely manage aggressive and challenging behaviours. The safeguarding procedures and guidance within Cambian Whinfell School reflect fully the need to use only agreed de-escalation and physical intervention strategies which staff are trained and supported to carry out. Systems and associated procedures are in place to record and respond to all incidences of physical intervention within the school/home and community.

Behavioural Consequences
Cambian Whinfell School sets out to build upon the positive aspects of young people's behaviour through restorative and reflective practice. It will not adopt punitive or recompense behavioural consequences that are detrimental to a young person's development. Behavioural consequences within Cambian Whinfell School are in place

to offer guidance to young people in the safe and appropriate expressions of emotion and behaviour.

Access to Safeguarding and Behaviour Management Policies
Safeguarding and Child protection policy can be accessed on our website or by request during your visit to the home, or alternatively by contacting the Registered Manager or Responsible Individual on 01539 723322 and request a printed copy.

VIEWS, WISHES AND FEELINGS:

Cambian Whinfell School Ltd has developed a consultation process for young people which facilitates their inclusion in their day-to-day care, review process, complaints procedure and contact arrangements. The Young Person's Guide contains a variety of opportunities for the young person to contribute to the planning process.

Whinfell School offer an open and inclusive environment in which young people are encouraged to express their views, wishes and feelings towards their care. Such forums include young person's meetings, 1:1 key worker sessions, mentoring sessions and regular contact with the home's senior managers. Social workers/placing authorities will be kept regularly informed and CLA and annual reviews offer a more formal forum for discussion and decision making. Young people contribute to their placement plans and are encouraged to offer their suggestions on the running of the home, including areas such as menus, activities and décor. Staff at Whinfell School will always listen to ideas/suggestions put forward by young people and where possible will try to accommodate them. If this is not possible, an explanation will always be given as to the reasons why not.

As mentioned above, reviews form an important part of reviewing progress and establishing future plans, in a child centered manner. The young person, family members and their social workers are encouraged to discuss planning issues with the young person prior to statutory reviews. The young person will be encouraged to attend their review or when this is inconsistent with their well-being, to contribute in writing or other media i.e. audio/video material.

Anti-Discriminatory Practices
Cambian Whinfell School Ltd has implemented and supported a policy document on anti-discriminatory practice which affects all aspects of direct care and support. Anti-discriminatory practices are evident in the:

- Preparation of Individual planning documents (IDPs, IBSPs, Placement Plans)
- Planning for family contacts
- Structure of staff supervision and development pathways
- Structure in delivering care and education services
- Consultation process for young people, family members, staff and professional representatives
- Preparation of all policy documents and practice guidance.

Children's Rights

We believe that children with additional needs should share the same rights as all members of society, where these are appropriate and in their best interests. Within the statutory framework provided by current legislation and regulations, staff of Cambian Group work to protect and promote for all people with special needs the right:

- to live full and independent lives to the maximum of their potential to a full, accurate and unbiased assessment of their special needs
- to a range of education, care, health and other associated support services required to meet all their needs
- to be involved in decisions affecting their lives and to have their wishes, as far as possible
- to appropriate guidance, counselling and care which promote their physical, mental and spiritual health and well-being
- to safe, attractive and comfortable living accommodation with privacy to adequate food, clothing, space and other necessities of life
- to the equipment, assistance and support services needed to enable them to live with dignity
- to the degree of freedom of movement which is consistent with their health, safety and well-being to participate in and benefit from cultural, entertainment, recreational and sporting activities where possible, to use facilities and services in the community
- to develop relationships without exploitation or coercion to the full protection of the law
- to be protected from all forms of abuse and from the fear or threat of abuse
- of access to information contained in their personal records, where this does not conflict with statutory regulations or threaten their well-being
- to supportive intervention to promote positive behaviour and to protect them from harm
- of access to suitably qualified, experienced and sympathetic staff in sufficient numbers to maintain quality of service
- to financial support sufficient to maintain their quality of life
- to have links with home and family promoted and maintained to positive recognition of cultural and religious diversity.

In light of our strongly held belief in these rights of the Children and young People in our care, we undertake the duty to promote them through the provision we make for our Children and young People.

Rigorous safeguarding procedures are in place to ensure young people are protected from harm. Activities are balanced against risk to enable young people to take part in fun and stimulating activities whilst keeping safe.

All young people are given the opportunity to achieve their potential academically. We recognise that most young people at Whinfell will have missed often a significant

amount of school in the past and provision is made to support these young people to begin to access and enjoy education again.

The health and well-being of young people at Whinfell is promoted and reflected in individual placement plans. Access to medical professionals is promoted and young people are supported to become independent in development of their self- care skills.

All young people have access to clean water and nutritious food. Meals will be prepared with nutrition and health in mind and menus will reflect individual's right to choose. Specific dietary requirements relating to religion, culture or specific health needs will be catered for in full. As part of the consultation process, staff and young people are encouraged to comment upon the preparation, presentation and quality of meals. The preparation of main meals will be carried out by residential staff. Young people will be encouraged, with supervision, to learn cooking skills as part of their extended educational day and when ready will plan, budget, shop for and prepare their meals independently.

Office of the Children's Commissioner

The Children's Commissioner for England promotes and protects children's rights in England. She does this by listening to what children and young people say about what matters to them and making sure adults in charge take their views and interests into account.

The law says that, in her work, the Children's Commissioner should have particular regard to children living away from home or receiving social care, as set out in Part 6, Section 8A of the Children and Families Act 2014.

The Commissioner is supported in her work by a team of staff at the **Office of the Children's Commissioner** (OCC). Together, they are responsible for the rights of all children and young people until they are 18 years old, or 25 years if they have been in care, are care leavers or have a disability.

All young people who live at Cambian Whinfell School will be provided with information on how to contact the Office of the Children's Commissioner (for advice and assistance on their rights and entitlements), in their Young Person's Guide.

Independent Advocacy

All young people must have access to appropriate advocacy support. Young people living at Cambian Whinfell School who are 'Looked After' by the Local Authority, are entitled to an independent advocate. Although there is not a legal requirement for non-looked after children to have access to an independent advocate, Cambian Whinfell School utilise the services of NYAS (National Youth Advocacy Service) to provide advocacy services to all young people living at the home. The Advocate will visit on a monthly basis and provide an opportunity for young people to express their views, wishes and feelings about their care and l

Contact details for NYAS are provided for all young people living at Cambian Whinfell School.

EDUCATION:

Special Educational Needs

All young people at Whinfell have an Education Health and Care Plan. A multidisciplinary team identify appropriate IDP's for each young person which are embedded within the 24-hour curriculum. This is co-ordinated by the Designated Teacher and reviewed on a termly basis. The MDT consists of education and residential staff, Educational Psychologist, Clinical Psychologist, Speech and Language Therapist and Occupational Therapist.

Curriculum Information

Cambian Whinfell School's education is organised by the Principal and Head of Education and supported by Teachers, learning support assistants, instructors and Residential Support Staff. The school day runs from 0900 – 15.15hrs Monday to Friday during educational term times. We follow the national curriculum, adapted to meet the individual needs of our young persons. In addition to the national curriculum, we offer Preparation for Adulthood and Therapeutic Outdoor Learning. At the core of the individualised programme of education are the young person's IDPs which are informed by the Statements of Educational Needs / Education and Health Care Plan. Within the academic curriculum emphasis is based on developing numeracy, literacy and communication skills as well as a range of life skills through the all schemes of work. At 16 young people are entered for formal qualifications including GCSE's, functional skills and other external accreditation. Embedded in the curriculum is a work skills programme including work experience placements with local organisations. At post 16 we make use of excellent links with local colleges for young people to pursue courses at the appropriate level. All our young people will require intensive wrap around support in order to develop their social skills and functioning.

Reviews

Young people placed at Cambian Whinfell School are required to have regular statutory reviews as outlined in the Department for Children, Schools and families SEN Code of Conduct. Prior to reviews, consultation will be carried out by those caring and educating the young person, the young person himself, family members, advocates, significant others and professional representatives from the placing authority. The young person will be encouraged to attend the review or where this is considered detrimental to their needs, make representation in writing or using other identified mediums.

ENJOYMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT:

Enjoy and Achieve - Cultural, Recreational and Sporting Activities
As part of the consultation process and in preparation for Individual Care and Education Plans a summary of referral is completed. This will reflect the individual's aptitudes, skills and 'risk' behaviours. Young people will be encouraged to mix with peers and adults within the wider community according to their abilities, wishes and behaviour.

Cambian Whinfell School Ltd has developed excellent social networks in the local and wider community including fully inclusive youth clubs, sports clubs and voluntary work. The young people can attend leisure facilities including theatre, cinema, swimming and ten-pin bowling if they wish. They may also be supported to attend individual groups within the community including Scouts, Army Cadets, Gaming, Model Railway, Church and youth clubs.

Young people's strengths and skills are nurtured and promoted which in turn boosts self-esteem and confidence. The high staffing levels at Whinfell offer the young people the opportunity to access meaningful and individual activities to reflect their creative, intellectual, physical and social interests and skills.

HEALTH:

Therapy
Cambian Whinfell utilise a Multi-Disciplinary Team to support all aspects of the development of our young people. Professional therapists and clinicians include:

- Qualified Educational Psychologist
- SALT and OT provided by qualified individuals through the Cambian Group.
- Qualified Clinical Psychologist – Dr Nicola Kennelly CPsychol AFBPsS, Chartered Clinical Psychologist, Registered Clinical Psychologist

All qualified staff receive clinical supervision on a regular basis through their relevant professional bodies.

The effectiveness of the approach is assessed through MDT meetings and formative assessment. As a home for the young people, Cambian Whinfell provides a safe and consistent environment in which young people can test boundaries and establish relationships of trust and respect. It is therefore imperative that any internal/external therapeutic intervention is consistent with the needs of the young person and supportive of their care setting.

Health and Wellbeing

Young people at Cambian Whinfell School are all registered with a GP, dentist, and optician. Should a young person require specialist input (i.e. from CAMHS), this is fully supported and arrangements put in place prior to admission to ensure that a smooth transition takes place. Detailed information of the health needs of all young people can be found in their placement plans. Cambian Whinfell School has excellent links with the local Looked-After Children nurse team who visit regularly and carry out any routine assessments in line with CLA procedure.

At Whinfell, we are committed to promoting a healthy, smoke-free environment and supporting young people in making informed choices about smoking and vaping. As a strictly non-smoking setting, we actively discourage the use of tobacco and vaping products through; education, open dialogue, and consistent boundaries. Staff are confident to engage young people in conversations about the risks associated with smoking and vaping, offering guidance and support tailored to their individual needs. We work collaboratively with health professionals and local services to provide access to cessation resources where appropriate, and we foster a culture of wellbeing that empowers young people to develop positive habits for life.

POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS:

Promoting Contact with Family and Friends

Cambian Whinfell School has a positive record of consultation and working in partnership with parents/significant others. Parents/significant others are encouraged to maintain regular contact with the young person (where detailed as appropriate in the care plan) either by visits to Whinfell or telephone/written correspondence. All young people have access to a telephone in a private area in which they can contact family and friends. Young people can also contact family/friends through email/social networking if appropriate, or letters if preferred. Provision will be made for young people to invite friends to visit them at Whinfell and the Registered Manager will approve this when appropriate. This also extends to young people visiting friends' homes as agreed. Cambian Whinfell School will do all that is practicable to help maintain positive family interaction.

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN:

Student's use of electronic devices connected to the company Wi-Fi is filtered and monitored using an industry recognised system.

Supervision of Young People – Day and Night
Prior to a young person's placement at Whinfell a supervision level will have been agreed in consultation with the placing authority. Appropriately trained and experienced staff will be detailed to work with the young person on a rota basis. Young people will have an identified core team who will be primarily responsible for their care. During the night there will be waking night staff (Windermere Rd site) and sleep-in staff onsite.

Electrical/Mechanical Observation of Young People
Where there is a specific arrangement detailed in a young person's care plan they may be monitored using electrical video equipment. This need may arise in the event of specific medical conditions, i.e. epilepsy, or where there is a significant and proven risk of self-harm.

No areas within the building other than those specified in an individual's care plan will be subject to video surveillance. The exterior of the building has CCTV cameras for security reasons only.

Please refer to the Safeguarding and Child protection section for information relating to behaviour support, including dealing with violence and aggression.

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT:

The registered provider;

Cambian Whinfell School Ltd
Metropolitan House
3 Darkes Lane
Potters Bar
EN6 1AG

The **Responsible Individual** is Paddy Sandham and the **Registered Manager** is Jennifer Carradus

Cambian Whinfell School
110 Windermere Road
Kendal
Cumbria
LA9 5EZ
Tel: 01539 723322

Staff Qualifications
Residential staff all have experience of learning disability/ Autistic Spectrum Disorder. Staff are expected to be qualified to NVQ level 3, if on joining Whinfell School they have yet to achieve this, upon successful completion of probation, they are enrolled onto the programme. Senior Care Managers are enrolled onto the Level 5 qualification.
Education staff are experienced and trained in special educational needs.
The health and therapy team are all experienced and qualified practitioners. A full list of qualifications is available for inspection.

Vetting of Staff and Visitors
Cambian Whinfell School has a very clear policy and associated guidance notes for the vetting of visitors and staff to the home. Staff are regularly assessed upon their knowledge of such procedures and are subject to disciplinary action if procedures are not met in full.

All staff are subject to full enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) disclosures and reference checks. No person can work at Cambian Whinfell unless they have had checks completed in full and to a satisfactory standard. Where an applicant

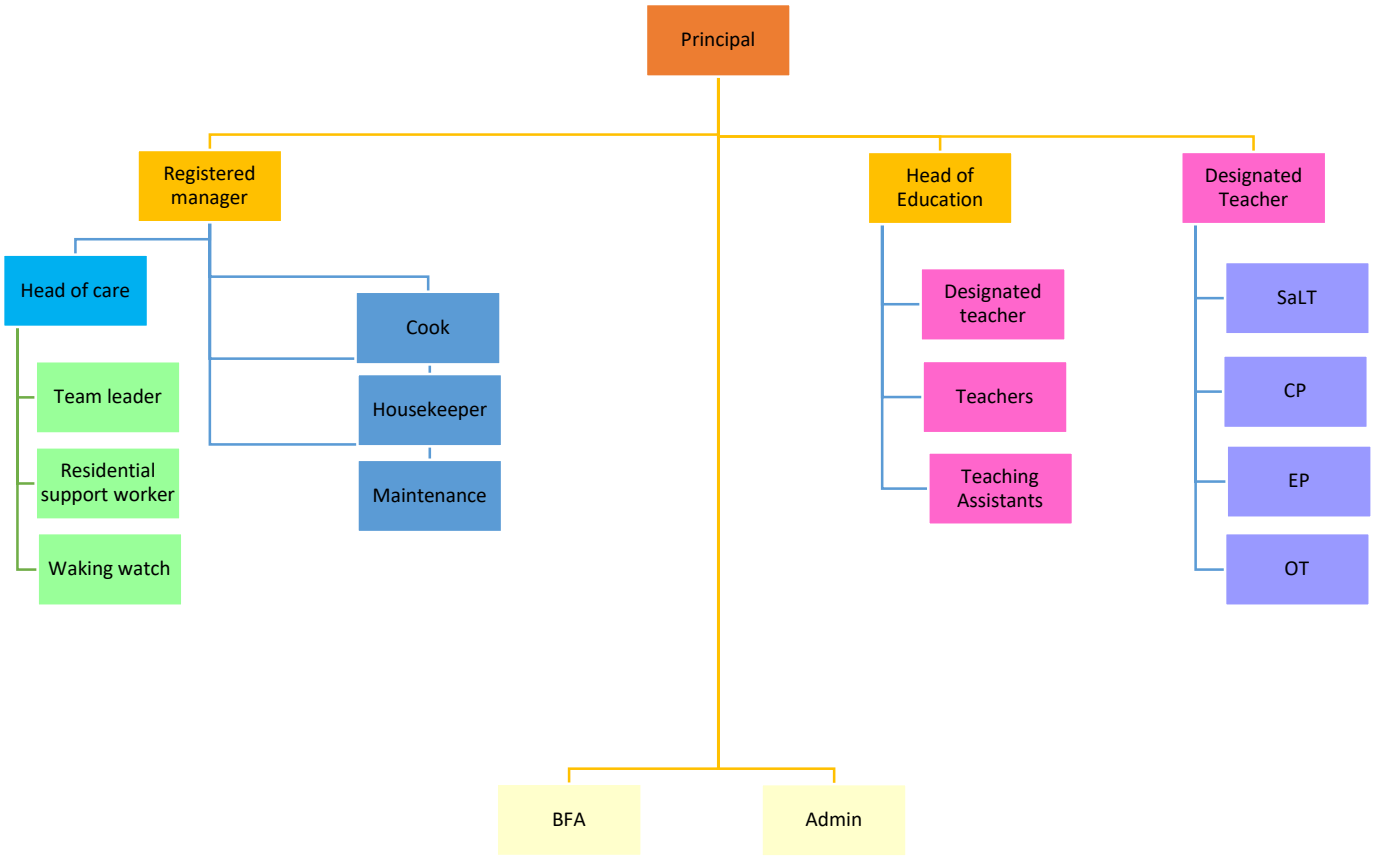
criminal record this information may be shared with Ofsted for consultation prior to any appointment being offered.

Staff Support/Professional Supervision

Cambian Whinfell School is committed to the care of young people and the staff assigned the task of meeting their care and educational needs. As an organisation Cambian Whinfell School provides a support package to its workforce which highlights clear organisational goals, positive working practices, a defined management structure, an accessible complaints procedure, forums for consultation and individual supervision plans. All staff receive professional supervision sessions with their line managers at regular intervals, and more frequently within the first six months of employment. Cambian Whinfell School have access to the group specialists who advise over matters of current employment law, Health & Safety and other legal matters.

Management and Staffing Structure

The Principal is ultimately responsible for the running of the whole site. The registered manager is legally responsible for all the care components.



Staffing

Cambian Whinfell School ensures that all staff allocated to young people are adequately experienced, trained and supported to deliver informed quality care. Cambian Whinfell School ensures that all new staff complete a full induction programme and 'shadow' more experienced staff in the setting until they are assessed as being competent to work without direct supervision. Cambian Whinfell School has a small and reliable team of relief staff who are all appropriately trained to cover instances of sickness/holiday etc. and agency staff are only used when other staffing solutions have been exhausted. A senior manager is on call 24/7 and if staffing levels require, will work alongside residential staff/teachers to ensure adequate support and supervision for our young people. Full staff training records are available from the school office.

Training

Cambian Whinfell School has a high-quality training programme called 'Your Hippo' which is designed to meet the individual and group needs of young people in placement. Our current training programme, including e-learning modules and face to face delivery incorporates:

- Safeguarding Children
- Ligature Training
- Autism Awareness training
- Complaints
- Dealing with concerns at work
- Equality & Diversity
- Food Safety
- Infection Prevention and Control
- Health and Safety Awareness
- Food safety in catering
- Data Protection
- CPI – Strategies for the de-escalation and safe management of physical intervention
- Level 3 Diploma Residential Child Care
- i-Care Health medication management
- Safe administration of Medication
- Fire Warden
- Fire safety
- First Aid
- Counter bullying
- COSHH

In addition to these training modules, an annual programme is being rolled out by the Multi-Disciplinary Therapy Team and delivered to both residential and teaching staff. The programme of training will include inputs from the Education Psychologist, Clinical Psychologist, Speech and Language Therapist and Occupational Therapist and where necessary will be specific to the individual young people at Whinfell.

CARE PLANNING:

Placement Criteria

Cambian Whinfell School can offer tailored placements to young males presenting with a variety of complex needs and diagnosis, including Autistic Spectrum Condition and behaviours associated with language and communication; specific, moderate and severe learning difficulties; ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Condition). The individualised provision of service reflects the need for close support within a quality care and education setting. Cambian Whinfell School also networks with specialist therapeutic services in the local area to support specific therapeutic needs of individual young people.

Placements are offered to young people whom the placing authority and Cambian Whinfell School Ltd assess as requiring specialist support within a small, homely environment. The provision of placements to young people will reflect the experience, skills and qualifications available from the workforce at Cambian Whinfell School at the time of placement.

The school operates for 52 weeks of the year.

Cambian Whinfell School **will not** offer placements to young people where:

- There is a significant history of bullying of peers
- There is a significant history of criminalised behaviour
- There is a significant history of alcohol or drug/substance abuse
- History of significant fire starting
- History of significant assaults on staff or young people (physical or verbal)
- Extreme physical or medical need
- History of false allegations

Admissions procedure

Prior to planned placements being offered at Cambian Whinfell School:

The Local Authority (LA) or Social Services makes a referral to the School which would normally first go through the Cambian commissioning team. The Education Health and Care Plan (or Scottish Child Plan) and any additional papers are assessed by the commissioning manager before being passed to the school. The commissioning manager will make a judgement if the referral is a good match for the school's profile and will complete an initial referral form. The purpose is:

- To determine the prospective young person's suitability for an assessment meeting (on the basis of the likelihood of the school being able to meet needs).
- To make an early assessment of the likely level and type of support required.
- To assess the needs of the young person, and the likely impact of his admission upon the existing school cohort.

The referring authority representative, agent, parents/guardians and the prospective young person are invited to the school for a show-around and an informal meeting to determine suitability for placement. A home visit is then normally carried out by the Registered Manager and Principal or their designates. At this point contact is made between the clinical lead and any professionals involved with the young person.

As a combined SLT and MDT the referral is reviewed and a decision made as to whether or not to offer a place. Fundamentally the decision will be informed by our ability to meet need, to keep the young person safe and manage the impact on the rest of the cohort. Any additional needs identified will be raised with the LA and other external agencies at an early stage to determine any additional costs beyond the core fee. It is crucial for the young person that the placement succeeds so a great deal of time is spent on determining the level of risk and the suitability of the offer.

The formal assessment meeting is a critical event in the relationship between the school, LA, parent(s) and prospective young person. It is vital that a comprehensive picture of the prospective young person's needs, likes/dislikes, abilities and interests are gleaned, if we are to work effectively with him. This will also give parents/guardians and school staff an opportunity to further develop an understanding and fruitful relationship that will be a major influence on the young person's future development.

Once it is agreed that a prospective young person will be admitted, the initial referral information is further amplified and a transition plan agreed. The plan varies from individual to individual and may involve further visits to school, meetings at home with key staff members or regular email and phone contact. To all new admissions we send a pack that includes the Young person's Guide.

At school we identify the most obvious needs of the young person and an early action plan for staff to work on during the initial (12 weeks) assessment period. This first three months is always an extended assessment period during which time MDT and education will carry out baseline assessments. These will further inform the way ahead. At the end of 12 weeks we hold an initial review of placement and hopefully determine that we can continue to meet need and manage impact.

Normally, the young person's care plan will need to have identified a need for a placement of 12 months or over.

Whinfell School does not provide respite care or emergency admissions.

Further Information

Admissions can take place at any time during the year. Referrals and enquiries are made through the Cambian Admissions Team or the Principal, and can be made by parents, local authorities, social services departments or health authorities. Visits from prospective parents and representatives of placing authorities are always welcome at any time. Young people are admitted following a thorough assessment by members of the Senior Management Team and there is a detailed admissions policy that can be viewed at the request of the referring person outlining the process.

Admissions line: 0800 288 9779

Cambian Whinfell School is happy to provide any of the above-mentioned policies, an organisation chart and a school prospectus to parents and other stakeholders upon request.

Additional Contact Details

The Children's Commissioner for England:
The Office of the Children's Commissioner
Sanctuary Buildings
20 Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT

Tel: 0800 528 0731
advice.team@childrenscommissioner.gsi.gov.uk

Ofsted
Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

Email: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk

General enquiries: 0300 123 1231

Child Protection Services:
NSPCC child protection helpline
Tel: 0808 800 5000 (adults)

Childline
Tel: 0800 1111

Regulation 44 Independent Monitoring
NYAS – National Youth Advocacy Service
Tower House
1 Tower Road
Birkenhead
Wirral
CH41 1FF

Head Office Telephone: 0151 649 8700

Email: main@nyas.net

<u>Document compiled using the following information where appropriate:</u>
Children's Homes Regulations including the Quality Standards - April 2015
Cambian Group Policies and Procedures

DETAILS OF QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE OF STAFF

Position	Name	Experience	Qualification
Principal/Responsible Individual	Patricia Sandham	Has worked in Specialist Education for 24 years (since 2002)	BSc Hons Chemistry (2:1) PGCE DSL L3 NPQH NPQEL
Registered Manager	Jennifer Carradus	Has worked in residential care since 2014	NVQ L5 – Distinction End Point Assessment Leadership and Management for Residential Childcare DSL L3
Care Manager	Emma Brown	Has worked in residential care since 2010	NVQ L5 – Distinction End Point Assessment Leadership and Management for Residential Childcare DSL L3
Team Leader	Simon Barton	Has worked in residential care since 2019	BA Hons in Primary Education NVQ L4
Residential Support Worker	Christopher Rainbow	Has worked in residential care since August 2020	Achieved NVQ L4 in support work, children, young people and family's practitioner
Residential Support Worker	Sonia Mathew	Has worked in residential care since October 2023	Achieved NVQ L3 Graduated in Nursing and had been in nursing for 14 years before coming to Whinfell
Residential Support Worker	Rachana Patil	Has worked in residential care since October 2023	Achieved NVQ L3 Prior to coming to Whinfell was working as a Registered Nurse

Residential Support Worker	Jancy Joy	Has worked in residential care since October 2023	Achieved NVQ L3 Nursing Degree
Residential Support Worker	Hollie Owens	Has worked in residential care since July 2023	GCSE Grade C in English Working towards NVQ L4
Residential Support Worker	Rachael Mears	Has worked in residential care since September 2023	Working towards NVQ L4
Residential Support Worker	Martin Njoki	Has worked in residential care since January 2020	NVQ L3
Residential Support Worker	Elizebeth Rajan	First role in residential care	Prior to coming to Whinfell was working as a Registered Nurse Achieved NVQ L3
Residential Support worker	Lucy Wilson	First role in residential care	Working towards NVQ L4
Residential Support Worker	Patrick Obeng	First role in residential care	Working towards NVQ L4
Residential Support Worker	Nikki Croskell	First role in residential care	Awaiting registration for NVQ
Residential Support Worker	Kurt Blacow	First role in residential care Camp America	Sports science Working towards sports education degree
Housekeeper	Diane Chaplow	20 years' service at Whinfell	N/A
Cook	Stephen Holmes	Worked as cook at a variety of settings including schools and care homes	N/A
Maintenance operative	Hailey Coutts	Worked at previous residential school	N/A