The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority

Nursing Home Inspection Report

IN049248

26 February 2026

Information on legislation and standards underpinning inspections can be found on our website https://www.rqia.org.uk/

1.0 Service information

Service Type: Nursing Home **Provider Type:** Health and Social Care Trust **Located within:** – Belfast Health and Social Care Trust	**Manager status:** Registered
Brief description of how the service operates: The home offers short breaks care to children and young people with complex learning /physical disabilities and health care needs who require nursing interventions. Children and young people will be referred to collectively as young people throughout the remainder of this report.	

2.0 Inspection summary

An unannounced inspection took place on 26 February 2026 between 10.00 a.m. and 16.00 p.m. The inspection was conducted by a care inspector.

The inspection sought to determine if the home was delivering safe, effective and compassionate care and if the service was well led.

The inspection findings confirmed that staff had a detailed understanding of young people's individual needs, young people were supported by a stable, experienced and qualified skilled staff team, and there was a positive culture amongst the staff and management team.

The inspector concluded there was safe, effective and compassionate care delivered in the home and the home was well led by the management team.

The findings of this report will provide the manager with the necessary information to improve staff practice and young people's experience.

3.0 How we inspect

RQIA's inspections form part of our ongoing assessment of the quality of services. Our reports reflect how they were performing at the time of our inspection, highlighting both good practice and any areas for improvement. It is the responsibility of the service provider to ensure compliance with legislation, standards and best practice, and to address any deficits identified during our inspections.

In preparation for this inspection, a range of information about the service was reviewed to help plan the inspection.

RQIA inspectors seek to speak with young people, their relatives/carers, visitors and staff for their opinion on the quality of care and their experience of living, visiting or working in this home.

Information was provided to young people, relatives/carers, staff and other stakeholders on how they could provide feedback on the quality of care and support in this home. This included questionnaires and an electronic survey.

The findings of the inspection were discussed with the manager at the conclusion of the inspection.

4.0 What people told us about the service?

Young people who were less able to tell us about how they found life in the home were observed to be relaxed in their surroundings and engaged well with staff.

Discussions with staff confirmed they enjoyed working in the home and described the manager as supportive and approachable. Regular supervision was provided to staff, and an open-door policy was in place to encourage ongoing communication. Staff confirmed they were encouraged to raise any concerns, they felt listened to, and their views were respected.

Staff highlighted the value of effective information-sharing practices, such as handovers and team meetings, which promoted strong communication across the team. Staff confirmed they were encouraged and supported to attend training opportunities and continued professional development was encouraged.

Overall, staff described a positive and collaborative culture within the home, with a shared commitment across the staff team in ensuring young people were well cared for and supported.

No feedback was received by RQIA via questionnaires or electronic survey post inspection.

5.0 The inspection

5.2 Inspection findings

5.2.1 How does the service ensure young people are getting the right care at the right time?

Young people's care plans sampled were detailed and demonstrated a good standard of recording. The care plans were regularly reviewed to ensure they remained accurate, responsive, and reflective of any changes in presentation, behaviour, health or overall

circumstances of the young people. This approach enables staff to provide consistent, individualised care based on young people's current need.

Detailed risk assessments were completed and regularly updated to identify known and emerging risks, with clear guidance in place for staff to inform their response. This promotes a proactive approach to care and enables staff to respond appropriately and without delay, helping to ensure that support is timely, safe, and tailored to each young person's individual needs.

A comprehensive staff-training matrix was in place and confirmed that all staff maintained up to date mandatory and specialist training relevant to the young people's needs. Team meetings were held regularly, and minutes evidenced effective communication, reflective discussion and coordinated care planning.

Effective governance arrangements were in place with respect to management of medication. Clear systems were in place for the receipt, storage, administration, recording, and auditing of medicines. Effective arrangements reduce the risk of error and ensure young people receive their medication safely and as prescribed.

5.2.2 How does the service promote and protect the health of the young people?

Staff demonstrated a clear understanding of each young person's individual health needs. Comprehensive care plans were in place to give guidance to staff on identified health needs, routine interventions, escalation procedures, and the support required to maintain each young person's health and wellbeing during their stay. These plans were regularly reviewed and updated to reflect changes in need, helping to ensure that care remains safe and effective.

Staff played a central role in safeguarding and promoting young people's health within the home by providing consistent, informed, and responsive care. This included the safe administration of medication, oversight of complex health needs, support with nutrition and hydration, moving and handling, personal care, and the use and maintenance of any specialist equipment required.

For young people with specific medical conditions, staff were guided by clear clinical protocols that enabled them to recognise early signs of deterioration and respond promptly. This structured approach ensures that health concerns are identified at the earliest opportunity and that appropriate action is taken without delay.

The service worked in partnership with parents, carers and relevant health professionals to ensure continuity of care. Information was shared appropriately before, during and after each time the young person accesses the service, so that staff were aware of current health needs, recent changes, and any required interventions. This joined up approach supports safe decision making and helps to ensure that young people receive the right care at the right time.

6.0 Quality Improvement Plan/Areas for Improvement

This inspection resulted in no areas for improvement being identified. Findings of the inspection were discussed with the manager as part of the inspection process and can be found in the main body of the report.



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