

Davidshill Farm School Care Accommodation Service

Davidshill Farm
Dalry
KA24 4JD

Telephone: 01294 835 359

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
26 March 2024

Service provided by:
Spark of Genius (Training) Ltd

Service provider number:
SP2006008009

Service no:
CS2007157693

About the service

Davidshill Farm is set in the country near Dalry in North Ayrshire. The service provides care for up to five young people.

The house was decorated to a high standard and provided a homely atmosphere. It had a large garden which was well maintained, and a therapeutic barn.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 19 and 20 March between the hours of 10:00 and 20:00. The inspection was carried out by one inspector from the Care Inspectorate.

To prepare for the inspection we reviewed information about this service. This included previous inspection findings, registration information, information submitted by the service and intelligence gathered since the last inspection.

In making our evaluations of the service we:

- spoke with four people using the service and three of their family/friends/representatives
- spoke with eight staff and management
- observed practice and daily life
- reviewed documents
- spoke with visiting professionals.

Key messages

- The service had an excellent understanding of the young people's needs.
- The staff team provided trauma responsive care.
- Young people experienced excellent outcomes which enhanced their lives.
- The service was passionate about working alongside families.

From this inspection we evaluated this service as:

In evaluating quality, we use a six point scale where 1 is unsatisfactory and 6 is excellent

How well do we support children and young people's rights and wellbeing?	6 - Excellent
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Further details on the particular areas inspected are provided at the end of this report.

How well do we support children and young people's rights and wellbeing?

6 - Excellent

We evaluated this key question as excellent, where performance was innovative and sector leading.

Staff had an excellent understanding of the needs of the young people. External professionals told us, "This is an excellent service, my young person is progressing so much." We found the team had undergone extensive training and were highly skilled at communicating. This helped young people feel safe and listened too.

The service was passionate about advocating for the young people. We saw how the service had involved Who Cares? Scotland an external advocacy service to ensure the rights of the young people were being upheld. This supported young people to feel heard and ensure their views, rights and wishes were being respected.

We found the service had a prompt and transparent approach to child protection concerns. Any concerns were shared with the lead professional, and any other relevant agencies immediately. Often these concerns did not need further action, however, the service conducted their own fact finding to ensure the safety of young people. This ensured that young people were protected from harm.

The team were trauma responsive in their practice. All staff had a very good understanding of trauma, and gave clear examples of how they used this in everyday practice. Young people enjoyed visiting animals, and the service had recognised the benefit this had. This led to them planning for the introduction of more animals to the service. We also saw how staff had helped individuals to progress their communication through understanding their trauma and implementing communication aids. This meant that young people received a high standard of care from staff who understood their needs.

Staff had excellent relationships with the young people. We observed caring interactions between them, with young people. Young people told us, "All staff are great." The service also recognised the importance of these relationships. We saw that when planning holidays, family time and outings, relationships were considered. This ensured the young person felt safe and reduced their anxieties.

The views of the young people were at the heart of the service. We saw how the service had sought their views to inform the developments needed within the service. The young people also had been given opportunities to go abroad on holiday and purchase electric bikes at their request. We found this helped young people feel listened to.

Within the service there was good access to support the health needs of the young people. There was an occupational therapist which visited weekly and provided therapeutic support. The service also advocated for young people to ensure their health needs were supported. This ensured young people led healthy lives.

There was a commitment to provide support to young people's families. Staff told us, "It's important to build relationships with the family as they are a big part of the young people's lives." Staff would help transport young people home and stay with them if they wanted. Where appropriate the service also supported young people to move closer to their family or home. Families were supported to share their views on the care of the young people, and this helped them to feel included.

Mealtimes were nurturing and took into consideration the young people's needs. The service had developed another space which fitted in with the dining room decor. This gave young people the option to have more space when eating. Young people were also encouraged to go out and buy food of their choice. This ensured young people had choice and variety in their mealtimes.

What the service has done to meet any areas for improvement we made at or since the last inspection

Areas for improvement

Previous area for improvement 1

The provider should install additional bathrooms to meet the care and support needs of children placed.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that:

'My care and support meets my needs and is right for me' (HSCS 1.19).

This area for improvement was made on 12 December 2018.

Action taken since then

Service has implemented this as requested. New bathroom has been installed.

Previous area for improvement 2

The provider should consider removing the hand driers from the bathrooms. The views of young people should be kept under review as the makeup of the resident group changes.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that:

'My care and support meets my needs and is right for me' (HSCS 1.19).

This area for improvement was made on 12 December 2018.

Action taken since then

Hand driers have been removed.

Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at www.careinspectorate.com.

Detailed evaluations

How well do we support children and young people's rights and wellbeing?	6 - Excellent
7.1 Children and young people are safe, feel loved and get the most out of life	6 - Excellent

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Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

enquiries@careinspectorate.com

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