

# Today's Tomorrow Ltd - River Cottage Care Home Service

River Cottage  
32 Faith Avenue  
Quarriers Village  
Bridge of Weir  
PA11 3TF

Telephone: 07889216341

**Type of inspection:**  
Unannounced

**Completed on:**  
13 September 2024

**Service provided by:**  
Today's Tomorrow Ltd

**Service provider number:**  
SP2021000128

**Service no:**  
CS2021000216

## About the service

Today's Tomorrow Ltd is an independent provider of residential and educational services for children and young people. The house provides support for up to four young people. At the time of this inspection there were three young people living in the house.

River Cottage is situated within the quiet residential setting of Quarrier's Village near Bridge of Weir. Young people have their own ensuite or private bathroom, the house has a spacious kitchen, lounge and second living space including a dining table. Within the house there is also a classroom where one young person attended school with a full-time teacher. River Cottage has secure private garden facilities.

## About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 10 September 2024, 09:00-18:00 and 11 September 2024, 09:00-17:00. 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 three people using the service
- spoke with one family, five staff and management
- observed practice and daily life
- reviewed documents
- received feedback from seven visiting professionals.

## Key messages

- Young people were safe and protected from harm.
- Young people experienced nurturing compassionate care from an experienced staff team.
- Relationships between staff and the young people was a key strength.
- Young people's individual interests and life skills were promoted.
- Young people saw the people that were important to them.
- The manager and staff were excellent at promoting and upholding young people's rights.

## 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?	5 - Very Good
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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?

5 - Very Good

**Quality Indicator: 7.1 Children and young people are safe, feel loved and get the most out of life.**

We evaluated this key question as very good, we found that the service had significant strengths that supported positive outcomes for young people.

Young people were kept physically and emotionally safe by a responsive, knowledgeable staff team that understood their needs and listened to them. The staff team worked closely with other agencies effectively further reducing risk. A professional told us, "We have forged fantastic working relationships with the service."

Young people had access to responsible adults outside the service who acted in their best interests including advocacy.

The service consistently implements national guidance and best practice in child protection. The young people received stable therapeutic care from staff who had in depth knowledge of their individual needs and personalities, this was an area of strength.

Carers were trained in Safe Crisis Management (SCM) and provided a safe and consistent environment supporting young people to regulate their emotions. Restraint was used as a last resort. When this did take place there was proper debriefing for young people and staff in order that there was learning from the incident, reducing the chances of it happening again. Reparative work also took place with the young people to ensure that positive relationships were not undermined but strengthened.

Young people enjoyed warm nurturing relationships based on compassion and a sense of fun, young people enjoyed numerous and varied activities.

Staff showed a sound understanding of trauma informed practice, this was evident in how they spoke about the young people and was evident in recordings and plans. A professional told us "They have allowed the child the space and time to grow, develop, and begin to heal from the trauma experienced at their own pace. There is no service agenda, the needs of the child is always first."

There was an initiative-taking attitude towards risk management empowering young people to learn to keep themselves safe. Staff used modelling behaviours and discussed the importance of positive relationships.

We saw that the young people enjoyed spontaneity and fun with staff and a high level of respect. This was clear in the environment, which was kept to a very high standard, there was a very peaceful and homely feel to the house.

Children and young people were fully engaged in their care and support. They took part meaningfully and easily in decisions affecting them. Young people were all aware of their personal plans and their views on these were clearly recorded.

Young people's sense of wellbeing and identity was nurtured they were treated with consideration and dignity. Young people's mental and physical health needs was a priority for the team.

Connections to family and friends was actively promoted by the staff team, showing a commitment to 'The Promise.' All young people kept regular contact with the people that were important to them. Families regularly visited the house. Families told us that communication with staff was good and consistent. We saw evidence of family members joining staff and young people for significant celebrations.

Young people's individual ambitions, interests and life-skills were consistently supported and developed; this was an area of strength. Young people had the opportunity to engage in new experiences broadening their horizons and building their confidence.

Education was a priority. The young people received tailored support to take part fully in their learning and to maximise attainment and attendance.

The young people's care plans and risk assessments were of a high quality, which were person centred. All the young people had risk assessments and plans in place which were regularly reviewed and updated. Young people were actively involved in their care planning.

## 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

To ensure that young people experience consistent and confident care, the service should develop a training plan that takes into account different learning styles and provides more opportunities for face-to-face learning and development.

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

'I have confidence in people because they are trained, competent and skilled, are able to reflect on their practice and follow their professional and organisation codes.' (HSCS 3.14).

**This area for improvement was made on 27 February 2023.**

#### Action taken since then

The service had developed and implemented a training schedule which provided face-to-face learning and development.

**This Area for Improvement has been met.**

### Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at [www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com).

### Detailed evaluations

How well do we support children and young people's rights and wellbeing?	5 - Very Good
7.1 Children and young people are safe, feel loved and get the most out of life	5 - Very Good

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