

# Taigh Araich Care Home Service

Dalry

**Type of inspection:**  
Unannounced

**Completed on:**  
9 May 2025

**Service provided by:**  
Compass Child and Family Services a  
Scottish Charitable Incorporated  
Organisation

**Service provider number:**  
SP2019013387

**Service no:**  
CS2019377336

## About the service

The service building comprises a large detached house situated in a town in North Ayrshire, the service name, 'Taigh Araich', is said to translate from the Gaelic language to 'Nurture House'.

The house consists of three sitting rooms, a conservatory that is used as an art room, a kitchen/dining room and four double bedrooms. The service is registered for four young people.

The home is close to local shopping and local transport links.

## About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on the 6th and 7th of May 2025. 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 all young people using the service and three of their representatives and one parent
- Spoke with seven staff and two members of management
- Observed practice and daily life
- Reviewed documents
- Spoke with visiting professionals.

## Key messages

- Staff had successfully built positive nurturing relationships with young people.
- Young people stated they were safe, cared for and happy in the house.
- The staff group used their skills to support young people using a trauma informed approach.
- Young people's rights were respected and protected.
- Young people's participation in the development of their care plan was encouraged.
- Staff provided a consistent approach to implementing the model of care.

## 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

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for young people, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

Staff had successfully developed positive nurturing relationships with the young people. The young people were observed to be very comfortable interacting with staff and sought them out for guidance and advice and to spend time with. The young people stated that staff kept them safe. They identified specific staff members they could confide in and described all staff as nice people.

The approach taken by staff assured young people, and their families and social workers, that they had positive, consistent and stable relationships.

Staff were also nurturing positive relationships between young people in the house. The young people enjoyed the company of their peers sharing some activities, where appropriate, but also having their individual interests respected. This provided young people with fun and enjoyment on occasion but also ensured they could participate in activities of their own choosing. Where difficulties arose, staff would intervene and guide young people through advice and setting boundaries.

The service aimed to develop a non-institutionalised approach to caring for the young people. Staff provided trauma informed approaches to working therapeutically with the young people. Using their knowledge of the individual young people, professional judgement, skills and training the staff approach contributed to there being no significant incidents within the service.

Young people were clearly involved in the development of their care plan, whilst perhaps not recognising it as such. Young people were clear about their choices, their activities, how they spent their time and the structure for these events through the week.

Detailed risk assessments were compiled for both specific events young people were participating in and for their individual needs. These assessments contained appropriate strategies to mitigate and manage risks.

Young people's rights were assured through discussions of the UNCRC rights of the child and through visits to the young people by independent advocates and social workers. Staff could enhance this understanding by discussing the Health and Social Care standards with young people. The service provider and staff of Taigh Araich had been working hard to advocate on behalf of some young people's circumstances. Whilst there were barriers to what they hoped to achieve, they were also developing contingency plans to support the young people.

All young people in the home were participating in education and attendance was very high. Education was positively promoted and supported by the staff.

Both mental and physical health needs were attended to. We noted a delay in one young person's access to mental health services but recognise the service had addressed the gap in support as soon as it was identified.

Young people maintained connections with family and friends and others important to them with the help and support of the staff team. This reassured young people and those important to them that these connections would be maintained.

Care plans were constructed with the views of the young people sought and considered. Most care plans followed SMART principles of specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time based. We found not all care plans contained a similar level of detail but acknowledge this, in part, would be relative to the stage of these young person's placements.

## 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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Care Inspectorate  
Compass House  
11 Riverside Drive  
Dundee  
DD1 4NY

[enquiries@careinspectorate.com](mailto:enquiries@careinspectorate.com)

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