

Curo Salus - Garden Lodge Care Home Service

Care Home Service

Largs

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
5 December 2025

Service provided by:
Curo Salus Limited

Service provider number:
SP2004006972

Service no:
CS2006128113

About the service

Garden Lodge is one of several services provided by Curo Salus Ltd. The service provides a residential care home for up to six children and young people, aged up to and including 20 years. At the time of the inspection there were four young people in the service.

The service is situated in the village of Fairlie in Largs, North Ayrshire. The house is a large detached house with a large enclosed garden at the back and rear of the house.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 2 December 2025 (1130-1930) and 3 December 2025 (1030 -1730). The inspection was carried out by two inspectors 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 young people using the service;
- spoke with eight staff and management;
- observed practice and daily life;
- reviewed documents; and
- reviewed questionnaire responses from 11 staff members, three young people, three family members and four external professionals.

Key messages

- Young people were kept safe and felt secure within the service.
- Incident records and notifications to the Care Inspectorate were not completed in line with statutory requirements. There is confidence that the service will address this as a priority.
- Young people were aware of their rights and these were championed by staff.
- The quality of relationships between staff and young people was recognised as a key strength.
- The home environment was of an extremely high standard.
- Young people were actively involved in their care and support. The service were proactive in ensuring young people shaped the care they received.
- Young people were supported to achieve positive physical and mental health.
- The educational facilities contributed to positive educational experiences and promoted a culture of achievement.

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 children and young people, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

Young people were kept safe at the service and expressed that they felt content and secure. Staff were confident in their ability to ensure young people's safety. This was based on a sound knowledge of the individual needs of each young person. The service worked collaboratively with other key agencies and there was a strong understanding of individual roles and responsibilities.

Young people had good networks of support and were provided care that was underpinned by person-centred and rights-based practice. The need for advocacy was understood and young people had access to this when required to safeguard and promote their rights.

We identified a pattern of protection concerns that were not robustly recorded within service records or notified to the Care Inspectorate, in line with statutory requirements. This reflected a lack of understanding on the service's part in relation to their role and responsibilities as a registered service. We discussed this with managers during the inspection and have confidence in the service's capacity to address this as an area for improvement. Indeed, we were impressed with the practice in response to risk and protection concerns. We have taken these factors into account in our evaluation.

Young people enjoyed warm, nurturing and trusting relationships with staff. There was love and affection and the service was experienced by young people as a family home. This care and support was based on the staff team's understanding of the impact of trauma and care was provided that was therapeutic and appropriately responsive to these experiences. One family member commented in relation to their young person, "there are opportunities from him to have quality time with key workers and consolidate meaningful relationships built on respect...we are delighted with the quality of care he receives".

Young people experienced respect and this was reflected in the extremely high quality standard of the home environment. The physical space was homely and very well maintained.

Young people were engaged in their care and support and this was a strength of the service. Personal plans were of a good quality and we found that young people were able to participate and shape the care they received and the decisions that affected them.

Young people were well supported to achieve positive health outcomes. Individual therapeutic support formed part of the school timetable at the provider-led school and this contributed to improvement in mental health and wellbeing. The role of this specialist resource also increased understanding of young people's needs that informed their care needs and guided support.

Young people experienced close connections to family networks and this contributed to positive outcomes and supported individual plans. The service had an instrumental role in enabling one young person to return to the care of family. Young people's family members were valued as extended family members within the service.

Young people achieved positive outcomes in relation to their education. The role of the provider school was integral to this and facilitated an aspirational and achieving culture. Young people benefited from access to a wide curriculum with varied opportunities and new experiences. One external professional told us, "the education setting is encouraging, supportive and offers wonderful opportunities for learning, really tailored to each young person's strengths and needs".

Young people enjoyed opportunities to participate in individual interests, activities and hobbies. Staff were proactive and strength-based in their approach and this helped ensure that young people developed confidence, skills and new interests.

Mealtimes within the service were observed to be happy and social occasions. This was an opportunity for staff and young people to connect and 'catch up'. This reflected a home environment that was warm, relaxing and welcoming.

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?	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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