

Chestnut Wynd for Young People Care Home Service

Edinburgh

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
9 December 2025

Service provided by:
Dean and Cauvin Young People's Trust

Service provider number:
SP2003002647

Service no:
CS2003011204

About the service

Chestnut Wynd is a spacious modern home situated in North Edinburgh. The service is close to all amenities and public transport. The service first registered in 2002, to provide care for up to five young people, up to the age of 21 years. At the time of inspection there were three young people residing within the service.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced which took place on 3 December 2025, 10:30 - 17:00 and 4 December 2025, 10:30 - 16:30 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 one young person using the service
- spoke with staff and management
- observed practice and daily life
- reviewed documents
- spoke with visiting professionals.

Key messages

- Young people were safe
- Young people were supported by a trauma informed team
- Young people were supported to attain academically
- Young people's rights and sense of identity were protected
- Care plans were person centred and risk assessments were accurately reflecting current risks.

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/people, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

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

Young people were safe and the staff team were responsive to their needs. Good interagency working meant that all relevant persons were included and risk was well understood. This meant that young people were fully supported and included in understanding and managing risk.

Children and young people have access to responsible adults outside the service who always act in their best interests, including advocacy, there was ongoing work being done to improve engagement with advocacy services. This meant that the rights of young people were protected.

The service fully implements national guidance and best practice in child protection, including child sexual exploitation.

Young people experienced therapeutic care, there had been instability in the staff team in recent months, however this had been resolved with a stable staff team in place, this ensured continuity of care for the young people. There was no use of physical restraint within the service in the service. Young people were supported in times of crisis through positive relationships, humour, and trauma informed practice. This meant that no young people were not traumatised by experiencing or witnessing physical restraint.

The young people enjoyed nurturing relationships with their carers, and this was an area of strength. Staff spoke with compassion and warmth about the young people and demonstrated a good understanding of the impact of trauma on them and how this was reflected in their behaviours and development. Young people were supported to understand and manage risky behaviours without a sense of blame or shame. This supported young people to engage openly with staff about issues that affected them.

Young people were encouraged to engage with their carers, some of the staff teams were new to the service but had worked hard to develop and build positive trusting working relationships. A young person told us, 'Staff are great, they are easy to talk too, they really listen to me.'

Young people were treated with high levels of respect this was evident in the home environment which was modern, clean and bright each young person had a bedroom with ensuite bathrooms. A young person told us, 'I love the house.' Staff spoke about the young people with obvious affection and warmth and were knowledgeable about the individual needs, vulnerabilities, strengths, and personalities.

Young people were active participants in their meetings and their plans, empowering them to have ownership and agency in their own futures.

Young people's rights were championed. Their sense of worth and identity was protected and nurtured.

Young people's mental health needs were a priority and were comprehensively supported. A social worker told us, 'I have been particularly struck with how patient and compassionate the staff are given the young person's specific support needs and complexities.' This meant that young people could be confident that their emotional needs were being met.

Young people were supported to develop and sustain meaningful relationships with people that were important to them, ensuring that they maintained a sense of identity and belonging.

Young people's interests were promoted. All young people were supported to be in further education and their attendance was maximised. Participation in education was the norm. This meant the young people were able to meet their academic potential.

There was a commitment to young people remaining in the service. We saw that young people moving on from the service was done in a planned and supportive way and the young person was at the centre of this. This allowed young people to feel confident in planning their future in a manner that met their needs.

We found that care plans were Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timely SMART. We saw the use of pictures in plan supporting augmented communication, this was an area that the team were developing. Plans were person centred and the young people participated in their formulation. Risk assessments accurately reflected current risks and were dynamic. This ensured that carers were fully aware of issues that might impact on young people's welfare and respond in an informed and confident manner.

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 effective planning for young people's care plans should contain and use all relevant information about how specific needs and risks are assessed. This should include involving the young person, recording their wishes and recognising progress, strengths, ability and areas to be supported.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which states that; 'My personal plan (sometimes referred to as a care plan) is right for me because it sets out how my needs will be met, as well as my wishes and choices.' (HSCS 1.15)

This area for improvement was made on 8 June 2023.

Action taken since then

This Area for Improvement has been Met.

Previous area for improvement 2

To ensure that young people are valued, respected and feel secure, the provider should consult with and encourage participation of young people to implement improvements to the environment.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that: 'I am actively encouraged to be involved in improving the service I use, in a spirit of genuine partnership.' (HSCS 4.7) and 'I experience an environment that is well looked after with clean, tidy and well maintained premises, furnishing and equipment.' (HSCS 5.24)

This area for improvement was made on 8 June 2023.

Action taken since then

The service has relocated to a new building which is modern and well designed. Therefore 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.

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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