

Aspris - Clonmacate School Care Accommodation Service

Dalmellington Road
Ayr
KA6 6PW

Telephone: 01292 287 460

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
5 February 2026

Service provided by:
Aspris Scotland Ltd

Service provider number:
SP2010011131

Service no:
CS2019373084

About the service

Aspris - Clonmacate is operated by Aspris Scotland Ltd, and functions as a school care accommodation service. It is a registered home that can support up to five young people aged eight to 18.

Located in a semi-rural area of South Ayrshire, just outside the region's largest town, Ayr, the service is set within spacious grounds. The property is a large, detached villa featuring five bedrooms, a generous main lounge, a smaller secondary lounge, and an open-plan kitchen and dining area. The surrounding grounds include outbuildings that house play equipment and arts and crafts resources for young people to enjoy.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 29 January 2026 between 10:00 to 19:00 hours and 30 January between 10:00 and 14:00 hours. 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 two people using the service and two of their social workers
- spoke with eight staff and management
- observed practice and daily life
- reviewed documents
- spoke with visiting professionals.

Key messages

- Warm, nurturing relationships underpinned daily care and support.
- Strong safeguarding practice kept young people safe and protected.
- Consistent and effective advocacy involvement ensured young people's voices were heard.
- Young people experienced good educational support and achieved positive outcomes.
- Family time arrangements were planned and supported to an excellent standard.
- Young people benefitted from rich, varied and meaningful experiences.

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 identified significant strengths in the care provided and how this contributed to positive outcomes for young people. As a result, we evaluated this key question as very good.

Young people were kept safe by a team of staff who had a strong understanding of individual needs and how to support them. They encouraged young people to take measured risks while maintaining a safe environment. Young people consistently told us they felt safe. Risk assessments were detailed and clear, supporting a shared understanding of needs and ensuring consistent safeguarding practice. Staff demonstrated an understanding of child protection responsibilities, recognising early signs of concern and taking prompt, proportionate action. This helped young people feel protected, heard, and confident that their concerns would be acted on.

Young people were encouraged to access advocacy, with evidence of this in care plans and daily recordings. The team had regular discussions and actively supported young people to meet with advocates. This contributed to young people feeling listened to and having their views meaningfully represented.

Trauma-informed practice was embedded throughout the service and supported young people's emotional wellbeing. Regular one-to-one sessions gave space to talk about feelings, reflect on experiences, and share worries in a safe, supportive environment. Staff said young people had, "Positive relationships with staff and can talk about their feelings and worries." Despite staffing changes, trusting relationships remained strong. The team demonstrated attunement and sensitivity, helping young people feel secure. Young people told us they felt safe and cared for, and we observed young people approaching staff naturally for reassurance. One young person said, "I really like the staff - they're kind."

The service offered a wide range of meaningful activities suited to young people's interests and development, including sports, community groups, residential trips, and spontaneous outings. A professional noted that, "Staff encourage young people to take part in activities they enjoy." These opportunities built confidence and supported a strong sense of belonging.

Young people were encouraged to express what mattered to them, such as planning birthday celebrations and arranging family time in ways that recognised their individual needs. They told us they felt listened to, respected, and involved in decisions about their care. These have provided young people with new and exciting experiences and the opportunity to create lifelong memories.

Health needs were prioritised through timely referrals, including psychotherapy and speech and language. A professional told us that staff, "Plan ahead to reduce anxieties," preparing multiple options to support young people at appointments. This led to young people feeling reassured and more comfortable accessing health appointments.

The service demonstrated a strong commitment to maintaining and strengthening family relationships. The team approached family time sensitively, adapting support to individual needs and using activities such as walks or preferred interests to provide reassurance. "They support transport and offer family time in the house," a professional said. This supported young people to maintain the relationships that mattered to them.

Young people were supported to achieve, which was supported with good partnership working with education. Young people attended school successfully with individual support, and the team maintained regular communication with education. School described the service as, "Proactive and engaged," highlighting strong advocacy during transitions.

The service demonstrated a commitment to supporting young people into adulthood, recognising the house as their home. We observed staff offering opportunities that developed essential life skills, such as encouraging young people to prepare their own snacks and taking responsibility for aspects of their laundry. This supported young people to gain practical skills that boosted their confidence and sense of belonging.

We found the service had a good level of knowledge of young people which was reflected in their care plans. The service could improve this by having more SMART goals and consolidating the information. This would support the team to have clearer information to help support young people.

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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Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

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