

Camphill School and Care Home Services Aberdeen Care Home Service

Aberdeen

Type of inspection:

Unannounced

Completed on:

20 January 2026

Service provided by:

Camphill Rudolf Steiner Schools
Limited

Service provider number:

SP2003000021

Service no:

CS2009196657

About the service

Camphill school and care home service is a campus consisting of 3 care homes for up to 28 children and young people. The service is provided by Camphill Rudolph Steiner Schools Limited. The service cares for children and young people with a range of complex needs.

Camphill is located in a large woodland estate on the outskirts of Aberdeen. Each house is set over two levels and all young people have their own bedroom and bathroom. Some young people have individual sensory rooms. Shared spaces include a kitchen and living room. Camphill is set on extensive grounds, with access to a swimming pool on a nearby estate.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 13, 14, 15 and 20 January 2026. 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 registration information, information submitted by the service and intelligence gathered since the last inspection. In making our evaluations of the service we:

- interacted with 10 young people across three houses
- observed interactions between young people and staff
- spoke with nine family members
- spoke with 18 staff members
- spoke with two external managers
- spoke with four external professionals
- reviewed documents

Key messages

- Children and young people were cared for with dignity and respect.
- There was very good communication between homes and families.
- Managers provided a strong nurturing ethos in each home.
- Individual plans were holistic and detailed good quality information.
- Transitions between children and adult services was carefully considered.
- A new e-system for medication was being embedded across the campus to support best practice procedure.

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.

Children and young people in Camphill were kept safe and benefitted from nurturing, responsive staff who were knowledgeable about their complex needs. Staff were attuned to the individualised ways in which some young people communicated. Child and adult protection policies were clear. All staff were trained and could talk through this process. This ensured that children and young people's wellbeing was protected. We suggested creating a flow chart to ensure staff have easy access to the right people should any concern arise.

Children and young people experienced therapeutic and stable care. Observations of staff and young people revealed relationships based on respect and dignity. This respect extended to members of young people's family. One family member told us, "They treat my child with respect and humour." Family members spoke about good communication from staff. One family member told us, "We are always included in all decisions, and it feels like a team around my child." This tells us that staff understand the importance of maintaining connections to those that are important to young people.

Children and young people were supported to make progress towards their goals. All staff spoken to were invested in each young person's progress. From supporting independence in terms of self-care to young people finding activities that they excel at. One family member told us, "You wouldn't believe the difference in him. I wouldn't have imagined he would have gained so much independence." This tells us that staff are committed to maximising young people's independence.

The model of care in Camphill is unique. Core staff work hand in hand with volunteers from around the world, creating a diversity and vibrancy to each home. This collaboration is strengthened by supportive external managerial oversight.

Each home is individualised, creating spaces that were suited to their sensory needs. One professional told us, "It's a nurturing environment and it's homely." This tells us that staff use their knowledge of young people to create bespoke spaces to support their complex needs. Food was cooked in one of the homes and shared to the other houses, supporting the dietary requirements of all who lived there.

Children and young people were being offered opportunities to expand their world. We heard of young people going on trips to the beach, to the panto, to the local ski slope. We suggested that these opportunities could be further developed to ensure all young people had opportunities to be included in their local communities. Children were supported with access to education. We heard of communication groups established between school and home. This resulted in all those caring for young people to have the knowledge required to support them effectively.

Young people have their health needs met. There is a medical practice on the estate nearby, providing most young people with their medical needs. Camphill have recognised that incorporating a new e-system to support administration will enable a more efficient medication system. We look forward to seeing this embedded at the next inspection.

Care plans were highly detailed. All information was contained in one document, and this provided a holistic

view of how to support children and young people's needs. This allows for successful tracking of young people's outcomes.

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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