

Brucefield Care Home Service

Stirling

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
25 May 2026

Service provided by:
Stirling Council

Service provider number:
SP2003002689

Service no:
CS2003011484

About the service

Brucefield is a care home service run by Stirling Council. It operates over two sites, one for five young people in a purpose built detached bungalow and a ground floor flat for two young people.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 21 and 22 May. 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 two young people using the service and had two responses from our pre inspection questionnaire. We had one response from our pre inspection survey from a family member
- we spoke with eight staff and management and had nine responses to our pre inspection survey
- we observed practice and daily life
- reviewed documents
- spoke with two external professionals. We also had three responses to our pre inspection survey.

Key messages

- Children and young people had positive relationships with staff and the service had a relaxed atmosphere.
- The service was working to embed a trauma informed approach.
- Care planning had improved to support participation from children and young people.
- Educational attainment was promoted for all children and young people within the service.
- Work is required to explore team cohesion to further promote positive outcomes.

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?	4 - 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?

4 - Good

We evaluated this key question as good where several strengths impacted positively on outcomes for children and young people and clearly outweighed areas for improvement.

Children and young people were kept safe in the service. Staff understood their needs and worked authoritatively with other agencies when risks were identified. Advice was provided regarding how the service could further improve the recording of risk assessment within new care planning documentation. Children and young people had access to independent advocacy through a children's rights worker which ensured their rights were upheld.

The service has been developing its approach to trauma informed practice and recent training had been positively received by the staff team. Restrictive practice had not been used in the service for a prolonged period and staff were positive about the nurturing relationships with young people resident in the service. We received some mixed feedback regarding the team culture, with some staff feeling that there was a lack of cohesion which impacting on the consistency of care. The provider should engage with the staff team to understand how to build cohesion in order to further promote positive outcomes (see area for improvement 1)

There had been improvements to the setting since the last inspection with a new snug being developed was well used by the children and young people. Improvements to the garden and living room had also been made to give the service a more homely feel. The service development plan had identified further improvements to the setting that was planned, advice was given regarding additional areas of improvement to the setting on inspection.

Children and young people were engaged in their care and support. Keyworkers had engaged with young people with a new format for care planning which was a child friendly and promoted participation.

Children and young people's physical and mental health needs were met and the service advocating for assessments to be completed when appropriate.

Meaningful connections with family were promoted and the service actively supported family time to ensure that these important relationships were sustained.

Children and young people were engaged in a range of community activities, and were supported to gain life skills such as cooking and budgeting within the service. Children and young people were supported to engage in outings that promoted their interests.

All children and young people were engaged in education and were supported to explore college options where appropriate. This ensured that attainment was maximised.

A new format for care planning had been devised that was child friendly and allowed for progress against goals to be reviewed effectively. The service should continue to develop these documents in further embed a trauma informed approach.

Areas for improvement

1. To ensure that children and young people experience a consistent, therapeutically stable care, the provider should explore culture across the whole team to further improve outcomes.

This should include but is not limited to engagement with the staff team to explore any barriers to team cohesion and identify actions to further embed a collaborative, trauma responsive culture within the service.

This is to ensure that practice is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state:

"My care and support is consistent and stable because people work well together" (HSCS 3.19).

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 that children and young people experience consistent relationships based on compassion and a full understanding of the impact of their trauma and development the service should improve its approach to trauma informed practice.

This should include but is not limited to:

- a) Ensuring there is a clear vision and values for the service underpinned by appropriate training.
- b) Embedding greater reflection across incident recording and staff de-briefs
- c) Developing a consistent trauma informed staff culture

This is to ensure that practice is consistent with the Health and Social Care standards (HSCS) which state:

"I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice". (HSCS 4.11)

This area for improvement was made on 21 July 2025.

Action taken since then

Training on trauma informed practice has been delivered within the service recently with further dates planned. Staff were positive about the impact of training on practice. The service is committed to embedding trauma informed practice within the service as part of the ongoing development plan. Some issues with staff culture have been identified during this inspection and this will form an area for improvement.

This area for improvement has been met.

Previous area for improvement 2

To support the young people's wellbeing, outcomes and choice the service should review their care planning, and initial assessment processes. This should include but is not limited to:

- a) Ensuring young people are actively consulted on deciding their goals, and that these are clear and visible to them.
- b) Ensuring that goals are SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timely). These should be reflective of young people's words, and should clearly describe the supports required to achieve these. Goals should be actively tracked and subject to regular review.
- c) Ensuring that all staff are aware of the needs and focus of work for all young people within the service and know exactly what is needed from everyone to support young people to reach their goals.
- d) Ensuring that quality assurance measures are in place to track advances and barriers to progress,

allowing alternative plans to be created if required.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that:

'My personal plan (sometimes referred to as 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 21 July 2025.

Action taken since then

A new child friendly care plan is in place which encourages participation and identified clear goals. Key worker responsibilities regarding care planning were clear and there was managerial oversight. Advice was provided on how to further improve care planning documentation, in particular how risk assessments are documented.

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?	4 - Good
7.1 Children and young people are safe, feel loved and get the most out of life	4 - Good

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