Willow Cottage
Care Home Service

Bridge of Weir

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
28 July 2026

Service provided by:
Todays Tomorrow Ltd

Service provider number:
SP2021000128

Service no:
CS2025000143

About the service

Today's Tomorrow Ltd is an independent provider of residential and educational services for children and young people.

Willow Cottage is a residential care home for children and young people. The house is located on the outskirts of Bridge of Weir, Renfrewshire. The house is a spacious two storey property, able to accommodate up to four children and young people. There is a private enclosed garden.

The house was at full occupancy during this inspection.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 14 & 15 July 2026, between the hours of 11am & 7.30pm. 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 and spent time in the company of three young people.
- Spoke with six members of staff and management.
- Observed practice and daily life.
- Reviewed documents.
- Received feedback from families and visiting professionals.

Key messages

- Young people had positive and nurturing relationships with staff.
- The provider demonstrated a strong commitment to young people in their care.
- Managers and staff were strong advocates for young people.
- Young people benefited from planned activities.
- All young people attended education.
- Leaders were passionate about young people's care and support.
- Partners were enthusiastic about the care young people received.
- The provider had identified where further improvement could be made.

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

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.

The safety and wellbeing of young people was enabled through warm and caring relationships. Staff understood young people's needs and routines and they responded proactively using risk assessed strategies.

Protecting young people meant involving them and committing to their care. We found several examples of such commitment to young people. This included young people who had experienced the security of their most stable long term care arrangement, and where they were valued and respected by a compassionate staff team.

In support of young people's rights we found that, alongside formal advocacy, the staff team had been instrumental in securing positive destinations for some of those in their care. Staff worked hard to support young people's self expression and to educate themselves and other partners to better understand young people's experiences. A clear example evidenced that where trusting relationships had encouraged young people to ask staff to explore choices on their behalf, staff helped to promote young people's right to live life as they wished.

Our observations of those young people we met, were that they had a sense of belonging and emotional comfort whilst living in Willow Cottage. They appeared relaxed and happy, playing outdoors and gaming together. As the inspection took place during the summer holidays, young people were enjoying the nice weather, excitedly exploring whether they could have a paddling pool in the garden and arranging planned trips to places of interest.

Involvement of young people in their care was evidenced through the choices they made. Either by attending a new school or participating in meetings about their care. We sampled personal plans and found further evidence of consideration of young people's views and wishes. Plans allowed for assessment of progress and these demonstrated where young people worked toward achieving their goals.

Leadership at all levels demonstrated the importance of putting young people first. Interactions observed during inspection showed individualised approaches to caring for young people who lived together. More and more young people did this in harmony and it was acknowledged that this had taken a significant contribution from all, to get to this point. This required adaptability and good leadership to create opportunities for positive outcomes.

Positive outcomes were evidenced through all young people's engagement in education, in ways most suited to their needs. Some who had previously been unable to sustain education, had shown real commitment to new opportunities and where others found their time in school a challenge, staff worked closely with partners to adapt and to identify how best to support them.

Time with family was fully supported, where agreed. The skill and commitment of staff had encouraged family members to gain a wider perspective about their children's choices and this resulted in improved family relationships.

Families visited young people in the house and feedback from family members included comments such as, 'Willow Cottage staff are doing a great job and meet my child's needs wonderfully', while others stated that overall, they were happy with the care and support for their child.

Similarly, the provider worked with partners to support young people to grow and flourish. The provider's funding commitment to accessing play therapy for all young people who may benefit from expressing and processing trauma, without needing to verbalise their emotions, was one example. Training in play therapy principles for staff and managers, also featured, to support their understanding and to help inform care planning. Colleagues in health services, provided oversight of young people's health needs, reviewing medications and social work had regular communication regarding young people. Some partners provided remarks, to help convey how much they valued the care and support for young people. One partner said, 'The house cares for a young person with significant complex needs, a high level of trauma and have managed to build positive relationships with XX through the calm and predictable care they have provided'.

Part of working authoritatively with partners is having a positive culture that models high standards, child centred practices and strong advocacy. Speaking with those involved in the inspection, it was clear that this was the expectation. From senior staff, in post for some time, to senior leaders, there was clarity about modelling these expectations and their passion was a key driver for others to learn from and develop their practice.

Staffing assessment was an on going process and the provider understood the importance of building teams with the correct skill mix and experience. As a relatively new employer, this continued to be a key focus in development planning. The quality of key relationships with young people showed the benefits of stable therapeutic relationship based care and the transference of skills by those previously employed in other sectors, were used to good effect in Willow Cottage.

Training and development for staff included a commitment to formal qualifications and core training was prioritised, including an induction tracker for new staff, to support completion of introductory learning. A more robust induction programme was planned and a new learning platform had been secured to ensure staff were given optimum opportunities to learn and practice safely.

To further compliment development planning, Willow Cottage improvement plan set out a wide range of clear objectives for the year ahead. Making quality assurance more robust and introducing aspects of self evaluation had been identified as key priorities. We will make further assessment of progress at the next inspection.

Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at www.careinspectorate.scot.

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
7.2 Leaders and staff have the capacity and resources to meet and champion children and young people's needs and rights	5 - Very Good

To find out more

This inspection report is published by the Care Inspectorate. You can download this report and others from our website.

Care services in Scotland cannot operate unless they are registered with the Care Inspectorate. We inspect, award grades and help services to improve. We also investigate complaints about care services and can take action when things aren't good enough.

Please get in touch with us if you would like more information or have any concerns about a care service.

You can also read more about our work online at www.careinspectorate.scot

Contact us

Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

enquiries@careinspectorate.com

0345 600 9527

Find us on Facebook

Twitter: @careinspect

Other languages and formats

This report is available in other languages and formats on request.

Tha am foillseachadh seo ri fhaighinn ann an cruthannan is cànain eile ma nithear iarrtas.

অনুরোধসাপেক্ষে এই প্রকাশনাটি অন্য ফরম্যাট এবং অন্যান্য ভাষায় পাওয়া যায়।

یہ اشاعت درخواست کرنے پر دیگر شکلوں اور دیگر زبانوں میں فراہم کی جاسکتی ہے۔

ਬੇਨਤੀ 'ਤੇ ਇਹ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰਨਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ।

هذه الوثيقة متوفرة بلغات ونماذج أخرى عند الطلب

本出版品有其他格式和其他語言備索。

Na życzenie niniejsza publikacja dostępna jest także w innych formatach oraz językach.