Inspection Top Tips

Activities and Leisure

July 2025



Children's Homes Regulations

- The enjoyment and achievement standard is that children take part in and benefit from a variety of activities that meet their needs and develop and reflect their creative, cultural, intellectual, physical and social interests and skills.
 - (2) In particular, the standard requires the registered person to ensure—

 - (a) that staff help each child to
 (i) develop the child's interests and hobbies;

 (ii) participate in activities that the child enjoys and which meet and expand the child's interests and preferences;

 (iii) make a positive contribution to the home and the wider community;

 - (b) that each child has access to a range of activities that enable the child to pursue the child's interests and hobbies.

Children's Homes Guide

- 9.1 Children should be supported to participate in activities that they enjoy and which meet and expand their interests and preferences.
- 9.2 Children should be encouraged to take part in a range of activities, including leisure activities and trips.
- 9.3 Staff should support children to take part in school-based and outof-school activities.
- 9.4 Children should be able to access a range of activities both inside and outside the home, which promote their overall development.
- **9.5** Children should be encouraged and enabled to make and sustain friendships with children outside the home, engage in the wider community and undertake activities independently.

Children's Homes SCCIF Good Criteria

- Children are supported to engage in a range of activities that promote their emotional, physical and social development.
- Children are encouraged and supported to take part in meaningful activities that reflect their interests and needs.
- Children are helped to develop hobbies and interests and to access community resources.
- Staff plan and adapt activities to meet individual needs and preferences.

Top tips...

As the summer holidays begin our inspection top tips focus is on Activities and Leisure with links to Ofsted guidance, the children's homes SCCIF, ideas for improving your service and ensuring meaningful engagement for your young people.

- 1. Plan with purpose ensure activities are linked to care plans and individual interests.
- 2. Involve young people set out how you co-create activity schedules with their input and feedback.
- 3. Balance structure and spontaneity offer both planned and flexible opportunities for fun.
- **4. Support social connections** maintain friendships, build connections with local children, enlist support of clubs, sports centres, and arts groups.

Wanting more...

If you have any queries you would like to discuss, please either call us on 01803 493030 or email admin@dialogueltd.co.uk

