

# Inspection Top Tips

Being Happy in Care

December 2025



# Children's Homes Regulations

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(1) 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.

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**Regulation 9**



# Children's Homes Guide

**6.5** The registered person should ensure that children are offered a wide range of activities both inside and outside of the home (where appropriate) and are encouraged to participate in those activities. Staff should support children to take part in school trips, out of school and other clubs, volunteering and leisure activities.

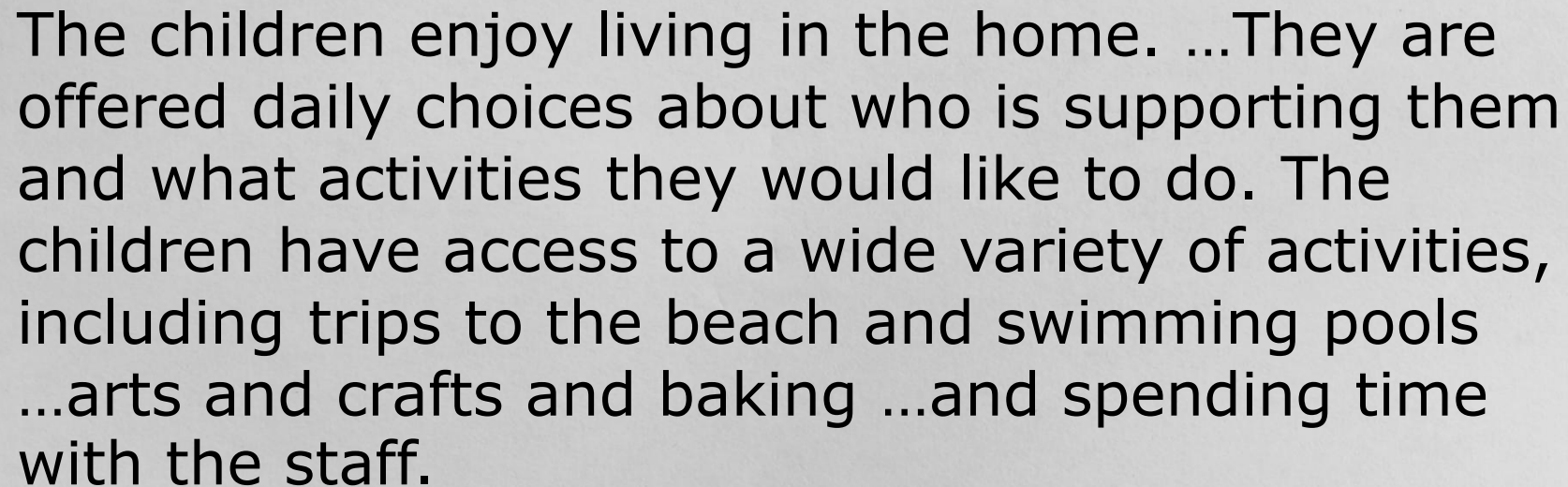


# Children's Homes SCCIF Key Elements

- Staff always place the well-being of individual children at the centre of their practice.
- All their achievements are celebrated and appropriately rewarded.
- Their day-to-day needs are met, such as routine, privacy, personal space, nutritious meals and enjoyable mealtimes.
- Children have appropriate, carefully assessed, supported contact (direct and/or indirect) with their family, friends and other people who are important to them, such as previous carers.
- There are no unnecessary restrictions in place.




## Ofsted comment from inspection – Good Home



The children enjoy living in the home. ...They are offered daily choices about who is supporting them and what activities they would like to do. The children have access to a wide variety of activities, including trips to the beach and swimming pools ...arts and crafts and baking ...and spending time with the staff.

# Top Tips...

1. **The plans for children should reflect the underpinning principle for children to be happy** and able to enjoy their lives in line with the UNCRC.
  2. **Hold events in the home that include the children and a range of people important to the care of the children** to demonstrate the commitment to the children by those providing their care.
  3. **Celebrate or recognise festivals and anniversaries** - always being sensitive that these can often be times that are challenging for children.
  4. **Members of the team around the child create a positive and fun environment through being proactive in the care they offer.**
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# Questions to consider...

- Do children have the opportunity to engage in a range of activities that they want to do?
- Are the staff proactively encouraging children to try new things?
- Do the children have the choice of who cares for them on the day?
- Do all members of staff offer fun and diverse opportunities for children?

