Inspection Top Tips

Partnership with Placing Authority

September 2026

Children's Homes Regulations

In meeting the quality standards, the registered person must, and must ensure that staff -

(a) seek to involve each child's placing authority effectively in the child's care, in accordance with the child's relevant plans;

(b) seek to secure the input and services required to meet each child's needs;

(c) if the registered person considers, or staff consider, a placing authority's or a relevant person's performance or response to be inadequate in relation to their role, challenge the placing authority or the relevant person to seek to ensure that each child's needs are met in accordance with the child's relevant plans.

Regulation 5

Children's Homes Guide

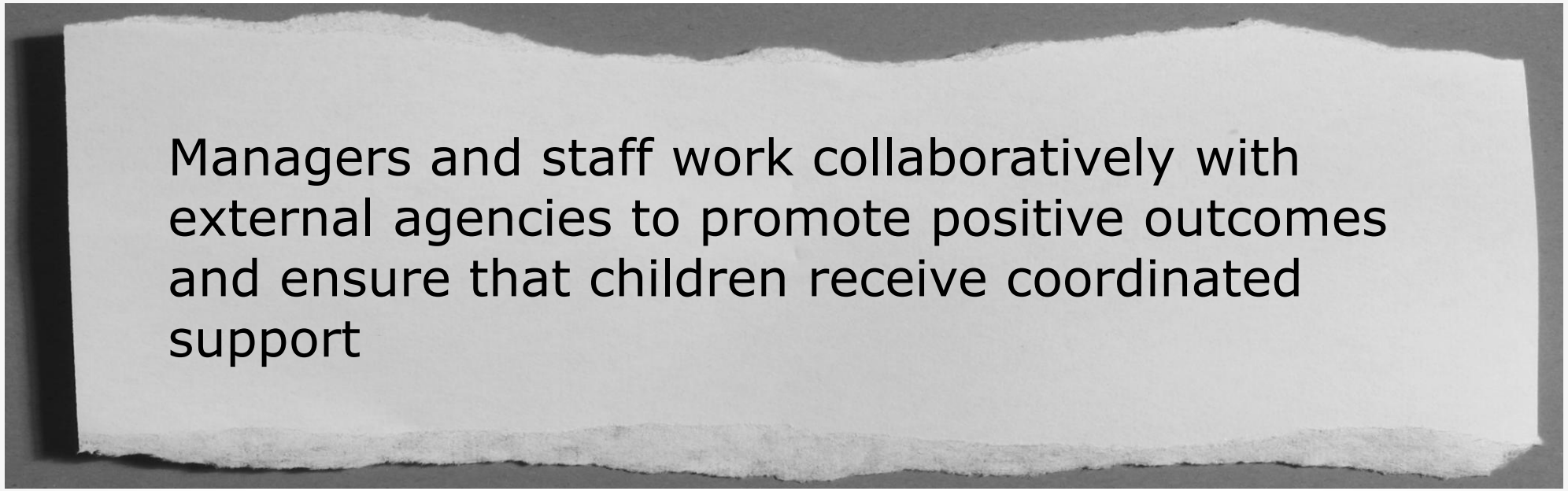
1.16 Regulation 5 is overarching; meaning is it relevant across all the Quality Standards. It sets out the requirement that children's homes must seek to work with those in the wider system to ensure that each child's needs are met.



Children's Homes SCCIF Key Elements

- Decisions about children coming to live at the home are inclusive and balance the needs of children requiring a placement and those already living in the home. Leaders, managers and staff understand and respond to risks effectively.
- Leaders and managers ensure that plans for individual children comprehensively identify their needs. Plans take into account the local authority care plan for each child.
- If children are not settling into the home, leaders and managers ensure that children's plans are reviewed promptly with the placing authority and the family (where this is appropriate).
- They consider the best steps to take next, including whether any additional support is necessary to help the children settle and to keep them safe.
- Leaders and managers challenge effectively and take action when they are concerned that placing authorities are making decisions that are not in children's best interests or when the statutory requirements for looked after children are not met.

Ofsted comment from inspection: Good



Top Tips…

1. **The needs of all children involved in planning for a child to move to a home** should be included in a compatibility risk assessment which is well informed.
2. **Be honest about whether you can meet the child's needs** when discussing the possibility of them moving in with you with the commissioners.
3. **Good practice places significant emphasis on well-planned transitions and positive endings.** Homes should do everything possible to reduce anxiety and help the child feel welcomed, even where admissions are urgent.
4. **Be curious about the information available** when considering agreeing to a child coming to live with you and explore the potential benefits and risks this presents.



New and Aspiring Registered Manager's Training…

The demands on holding the Registered Manager's position and the complexity of young people we are supporting is increasing. It's crucial that Registered Managers, and other people taking a significant role get the support and the training they need to deliver high quality services that really make a difference to young people.
This course builds managers' knowledge and skills across key areas of the role, from preparing and maintaining the home's documentation to building the culture required to lead your team. It's aimed at Registered Managers in their first year of the role and to deputies and similar being prepared for succession.

Next dates:

This 8 day course is being delivered via zoom at **9:15am–2:45pm on 13th January, 17th February 17th March, 14th April, 19th May, 16th June, 14th July, 11th August 2027**.

Costing £995+vat **(£750+vat for members).**

For more information and to book this courses, please use the link below:
Registered Managers training - Dialogue