

1.13.3 Children's Bedrooms

Regulations and standards

England

- [Regulation 6: The quality and purpose of care standard](#)
[Guide to the quality and purpose of care standard](#)
- [Regulation 24: Monitoring and surveillance](#)
- [Regulation 46: Review of premises](#)

Wales

- [Social Services and Well-being \(Wales\) Act 2014](#)
- Regulation 44: Premises - accommodation services only
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2017/1264/regulation/44/made>
- Regulation 46: Single occupancy and shared rooms – children
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2017/1264/regulation/46/made>
- Regulation 47: Premises - all services
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2017/1264/regulation/47/made>
- Regulation 48: Facilities and equipment
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2017/1264/regulation/48/made>
- Regulation 35: Fitness of staff
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2017/1264/regulation/35/made>

Relevant chapters

[Barricading Procedure](#)

[Managing Behaviours Policy](#)

[Searches and Confiscations Policy](#)

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1. Bedroom Furniture, Facilities, Equipment and Decoration

It is the Registered Care Managers responsibility to ensure that children's bedrooms are pleasantly furnished, equipped and decorated in a manner appropriate to their individual needs, interests and choices. Furniture is to conform to all Furniture and Furnishings (Fire Safety) Regulations 1988/1989, 1993 and 2010. Furniture is to match and damaged furniture, if unable to be repaired, is to be removed from the bedroom and replaced within 48hrs.

Children are to be encouraged to personalise their bedrooms, with posters, pictures and personal items of their choice. Children will be encouraged to choose a colour for their bedroom and wherever possible this colour will be painted in preparation for the child moving in. (planned admissions). In instances on an emergency or same day referral the child's wishes will be gathered after admission and the decorating will convene as soon as is practicable.

Children of an appropriate age and level of understanding are to be encouraged and supported to purchase furniture, equipment or decorations; preferably as part of a plan to prepare the child for independence.

Urgent consideration will be given to a child requesting to change bedrooms by the Registered manager, this will be agreed if feasible and in the child's best interest.

2. Bedroom Security and Keys

Children should have adequate, safe, storage for their belongings and medicines, if permitted to administer their own.

If it is necessary to do so, to protect children or their belongings or to develop their sense of independence, bedrooms may be fitted with locks or other forms of security. If locks are fitted, keys may be made available to children. Keys will also always be held by the adults to ensure safe entry can be gained if any of the circumstances highlighted in section 3 are applicable.

3. Staff/Carers Presence in Bedrooms

Children's privacy will be respected.

Unless there are exceptional circumstances, staff should knock on the door before entering a child's bedroom; and then only enter with their permission.

The exceptional circumstances where staff may have to enter a child's bedroom without knocking or asking permission are as follow:

- To wake a heavy sleeper, undertake cleaning, return or remove soiled clothing; though, in these circumstances, the child should have been told/warned that this may be necessary and this is written into the placement plan with explanations as to why it is necessary;
- To take necessary action, including forcing entry, to protect the child or others from injury or to prevent likely damage to property. The taking of such action is a form of Physical Intervention.

See the following procedures:

Barricading Procedure

Managing Behaviours Policy

Searches and Confiscations Policy

4. Visiting and Sharing Rooms

Children are not permitted to share bedrooms whilst in the care of Bryn Melyn.

Children may not receive visitors in their bedrooms unless has been agreed by the Social Worker, the children's views and wishes have been obtained, considered and the arrangements are outlined in the relevant Placement Plan.

5. Alarms and Monitoring Devices

To ensure the safety of the young person, other children who reside with them, the staff and the local community it may be appropriate to monitor exit and entry from a child's bedroom outside of normal waking hours with the use of a silent alarm that is triggered when a door is opened.

This alarm is linked to a night wake position or staff sleep-in room who are notified of a child's exit/entry from a bedroom by a low level buzzer. The staff member is then in a position to decide whether a young person requires assistance if there is a prolonged absence.

To ensure the safety of young people with specific health needs, (e.g. Epilepsy) it may be required for the home to use additional monitoring equipment. This could include listening monitors and/or pressure pads. If required these will be used to ensure that staff are able to support young people where health incidents occur.

Every effort is made to ensure the child's privacy, dignity and rights whilst the system is in use.

- The use of these alarms is outlined fully in the homes Statement of Purpose;
- Their use is assessed on an individual basis and agreed to in the care plan by a Social Worker and a use of alarm form is signed by the Social Worker;
- The child is made fully aware of their use and the reasons why the decision is made;
- The use of the door alarms/monitoring devices is reviewed regularly as to their appropriateness of use.

Revision History

Date last updated: May 2020

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End