

Care Home Checklist

Choosing the right care home

You may look at several care homes before choosing the one that is right for you or your loved one. We have put together a **checklist** to help you think about the care homes you visit, things to look out for and questions you may like to ask.

Location and building

	Y	N
Is it easy to get to the care home on public transport?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you visit by car, is it easy to find somewhere to park?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the approach to the care home well-kept and tidy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
What kind of shops and amenities are there close by?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Were you made to feel welcome?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are entrances and rooms in the home easily accessible?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Day to day life

	Y	N
Is the care home clean and well looked after?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the staff seem engaged and attentive?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the residents appear happy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do health care professionals such as doctors, opticians, chiropodists and physiotherapists visit the care home?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are complementary therapies available?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the care home have suitable equipment for people with mobility issues?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Staff

	Y	N
Do the staff interact well with residents?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do staff respect the privacy and dignity of the residents in their care?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there a key worker for each resident?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do staff get to know residents personally?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can staff be seen around the care home?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the care home manager approachable?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Communal areas

	Y	N
Do residents have a variety of communal areas to choose from?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the staff encourage residents to use the communal areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there easy access to all communal areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there an accessible and safe garden?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the lounges or other sitting rooms have pleasant views?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there lifts in the home?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Dining

	Y	N
Can residents choose where they eat, e.g. in a dining room or in their room?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do residents have a choice of menu for every meal?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can special diets be catered for?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the chef talk with the residents to discuss meal choices?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do residents receive assistance with eating if required?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can residents make drinks for themselves and have access to snacks at any time?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Bedrooms

	Y	N
What is the overall impression of the bedrooms?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the bedrooms have en-suite facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can residents bring their own furniture?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there an emergency pull-cord available?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Activities

	Y	N
Do staff encourage residents to continue with hobbies and interests?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there dedicated activities staff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the staff organise activities outside the care home?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there access to transport for activities outside the care home?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are special events, such as birthdays and religious holidays celebrated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the staff give residents the opportunity to help with activities within the care home, e.g. gardening or cooking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the staff arrange entertainers and groups of interest to visit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the staff give residents regular exercise opportunities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do staff consult with residents on the types of activities planned?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Visits from family and friends

	Y	N
Does the care home welcome visitors at any time?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are children allowed to visit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the care home allow family pets to visit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can visitors dine with their relative/friend?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Contact us for further help and guidance

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