

Regulation of Health and Social Care Services

Assessment judgment framework for statutory children's residential centres

January 2019

About the Health Information and Quality Authority

The Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) is an independent authority established to drive high-quality and safe care for people using our health and social care services in Ireland. HIQA's role is to develop standards, inspect and review health and social care services and support informed decisions on how services are delivered.

HIQA aims to safeguard people and improve the safety and quality of health and social care services across its full range of functions.

HIQA's mandate to date extends across a specified range of public, private and voluntary sector services. Reporting to the Minister for Health and engaging with the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, HIQA has statutory responsibility for:

- Setting Standards for Health and Social Services Developing person-centred standards, based on evidence and best international practice, for health and social care services in Ireland.
- Regulation Registering and inspecting designated centres.
- Monitoring Children's Services Monitoring and inspecting children's social services.
- Monitoring Healthcare Safety and Quality Monitoring the safety and quality
 of health services and investigating as necessary serious concerns about the health
 and welfare of people who use these services.
- Health Technology Assessment Providing advice that enables the best outcome for people who use our health service and the best use of resources by evaluating the clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of drugs, equipment, diagnostic techniques and health promotion and protection activities.
- Health Information Advising on the efficient and secure collection and sharing
 of health information, setting standards, evaluating information resources and
 publishing information about the delivery and performance of Ireland's health and
 social care services.

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Introduction

HIQA has adopted a common 'Authority Monitoring Approach' (AMA) in order to carry out its functions as required by the Health Act 2007.

All HIQA staff involved in the assessment and or monitoring of services against regulations and standards adhere to this approach and to any associated procedures and protocols. HIQA's monitoring approach does not replace the professional judgment of its staff. Instead, it provides staff with a range of procedures, protocols and tools to assist them in carrying out their functions. This combined assessment judgment framework is one of these tools.

Applying AMA and using this assessment judgment framework will ensure that the provider is treated fairly and the assessment of compliance is timely, consistent and responsive to risk identified within the centre. It also provides transparency to providers and the public on how HIQA assesses and makes judgments of compliance and non-compliance.

The application of AMA does not replace or take away from the provider's responsibility to ensure that they are in compliance with the standards and or regulations, and provide safe and high-quality services for children who use their services.

The purpose of this assessment judgment framework is to support inspectors in gathering evidence when monitoring or assessing a centre and to make judgments on compliance. The framework sets out the lines of inquiry to be explored by inspectors in order to assess compliance with the standards and or regulations being monitored or assessed. It also outlines the compliance descriptors of:

Compliant: a judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.

Substantially compliant: a judgment of substantially compliant means that some action is required by the service or centre to fully meet a standard or to comply with a regulation, if appropriate.

Non-Compliant: a judgment of non-compliant means that substantive action is required by the service or centre to fully meet a standard or to comply with a regulation, appropriate.

Actions required:

Substantially compliant means that *action, within a reasonable time frame,* is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.

Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and

make a judgment as follows:

- **Major non-compliance:** *Urgent action*¹ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
- **Moderate non-compliance:** *Priority action* is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

The assessment judgment framework should be applied in conjunction with the following:

- The Health Act 2007 (as amended)
- Child Care Act 1991
- Child Care (Amendment) Act 2015
- Child Care (Placement of Children in Residential Care) Regulations 1995
- National Standards for Children's Residential Centres 2018
- The National Standards for Child Protection and Welfare 2012
- Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children, 2017
- The Authority's Monitoring, Compliance and Escalation procedure
- The Authority's Enforcement Policy for those services subject to regulations, to inform decisions on what is an appropriate regulatory response
- HIQA's monitoring approach policy, procedures and guidance.

The assessment judgment framework is organised into two sections, called dimensions:

- 1. Capacity and capability.
- 2. Quality and safety.

Under each of these dimensions, the regulations and standards² are organised for ease of reporting.

¹ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

² The regulations are aligned to one standard only, as a 'best fit' simply for the purpose of reporting.

Safe Care and Support Resources Resources Resources

Figure 1: Themes in the National Standards for Children's Residential Centres

Section 1 Capacity and capability

This section focuses on the overall delivery of the service and how the provider determines whether an effective and safe service is being provided.

It includes how the provider:

- makes sure there are effective governance structures in place with clear lines of accountability so that all members of the workforce are aware of their responsibilities and who they are accountable to
- ensures that the necessary resources are in place to support the effective delivery of quality care and support to children using the service
- designs and implements policies and procedures that will make sure the centre runs effectively.

Dimensions: capa	acity and capability
Standard	Standard 1.6 Each child is listened to and complaints are acted upon in a timely, supportive and effective manner.
Line of inquiry	Is each child listened to and their views and preferences in relation to daily living arrangements and decisions about the centre given due consideration? Are reasons for any decisions taken explained to the child, in accordance with their age and stage of development?
	2. Is there a culture of openness and transparency in the centre that welcomes feedback, raising issues and making suggestions and complaints by children and their families? Are these seen as a valuable source of information and reviewed and used to make improvements to the service? Are children reassured that there are no adverse consequences for raising an issue or making a complaint?
	3. Is the complaints process consistent with relevant legislation, regulations and best practice guidelines?
	4. Is each child made aware of the complaints process by staff? Are parents and or guardians made aware of the complaints process?
	5. Are children made aware of other supports outside of the centre, such as the option to escalate a complaint to an external body, for example the Ombudsman for Children?
	6. Are staff in the centre aware of their role in supporting children to access the complaints process? This includes informing each child of

- their option to access independent advocacy services as necessary?
- 7. Are complaints recorded, managed and reviewed or investigated, if appropriate, and the child, their parents or guardians and the allocated social worker informed of the outcome of the complaint, review or investigation? Are any subsequent actions taken in a timely manner?
- 8. Is a record maintained of all complaints, including details of the investigation and resolution? Is this regularly reviewed and is learning implemented to improve practices in the centre?
- 9. Is the record of complaints made by each child and the outcome of the complaints documented in the child's Care Record?
- 10. Is there a mechanism for children to provide feedback on the complaints procedure and is its effectiveness regularly reviewed?

Judgment

Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.

Substantially compliant means that *action, within a reasonable time frame*, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.

Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows:

- **Major non-compliance:** *Urgent action*³ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
- Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

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³ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

Dimensions: capa	city and capability	
Standard	Standard 2.4 The information necessary to support the provision of child-centred, safe and effective care is available for each child in the residential centre.	
Regulation	Regulation 16: Records	
Line of inquiry	 Do staff in the centre establish and maintain a Care Record for each child in the residential centre? Is each child's Care Record kept up to date and contain information as specified in the regulations? Is the Care Record kept confidentially and held in accordance with 	
	legislative, regulatory and best practice requirements?	
Judgment	 Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full complian with the relevant regulation, if appropriate. Substantially compliant means that action, within a reasonable time frame, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service. 	
	 Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows: Major non-compliance: Urgent action⁴ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service. 	
	 Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service. 	

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Dimensions: capa	city and capability
Standard	Standard 3.3
	Incidents are effectively identified, managed and reviewed in a timely
	manner and outcomes inform future practice.
Regulation	Regulation 15: Notification of significant events
Line of inquiry	1. Is an open culture promoted whereby children and staff are
	encouraged to raise concerns, report incidents and identify areas
	for improvement?
	2. Has the provider ensured that there are mechanisms in place for
	significant people in children's lives, for example their parents or
	their allocated social worker, to provide feedback and identify
	areas for improvement?
	3. Has the provider ensured that there are policies and procedures in
	place in the residential centre for the notification, management and
	review of incidents, in line with regulations and national policy?
	4. Has the person in charge ensured that incidents are reported,
	recorded and reviewed in a timely manner, in line with regulatory
	requirements, and local and national policies and procedures?
	5. Has the provider ensured that learning is used to inform the
	development of best practice and actions are taken to improve the
	care provided in the centre? Are all incident reviews evaluated and
	is learning communicated to all staff in the centre and to the child's
	allocated social worker?
Judgment	Compliant : A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as
Judgmont	the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance
	with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.
	Substantially compliant means that action, within a reasonable
	time frame, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the
	safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.
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	health and welfare of people using the service.
	- Moderate non compliance. Priority action is required by the
	 Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety,
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⁵ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

acity and capability
Standard 5.1 The registered provider ensures that the residential centre performs its functions as outlined in relevant legislation, regulations, national policies and standards to protect and promote the welfare of each child.
Regulation 5: Care practices and operational policies
 Has the provider ensured that the residential centre is operated in compliance with the relevant regulatory requirements and national standards? Has the provider ensured that new and existing legislation and national policy, such as Children First, is reviewed on a regular basis to determine what is relevant to the service, how it impacts on practice and to address any gaps in compliance? Do staff in the centre demonstrate understanding of the relevant legislation, regulations, policies and standards for the care and welfare of children in residential care, appropriate to their role, and is this reflected in all aspects of their practice?
 Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate. Substantially compliant means that action, within a reasonable time frame, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service. Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows: Major non-compliance: Urgent action⁶ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service. Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety,

⁶ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

Dimensions: capac	ity and capability	
Standard	Standard 5.2	
	The registered provider ensures that the residential centre has effective	
	leadership, governance and management arrangements in place with	
	clear lines of accountability to deliver child-centred, safe and effective	
	care and support.	
line of incuring	1. Le le derebie de rectrete de code suidence de el levele in the	
Line of inquiry	Is leadership demonstrated and evidenced at all levels in the	
	residential centre and is there a culture of learning, quality and	
	safety in the service?	
	2. Are there clearly defined governance arrangements and structures	
	that set out the lines of authority and accountability, stipulate	
	individual accountability and specify roles and responsibilities of all	
	staff in the centre?	
	3. Has the provider ensured that there are appropriate service-level	
	agreements, contracts and or other similar arrangements in place	
	for the provision of services?	
	4. Has the provider provided evidence to the funding body that it is	
	compliant with relevant legislation and the relevant national	
	standards?	
	5. Is a person in charge with overall executive accountability,	
	responsibility and authority for the overall delivery of the service in	
	place for the residential centre?	
	6. Are all operational policies and procedures for the residential	
	centre developed, reviewed and updated by the provider in line	
	with regulatory requirements, taking account of national standards	
	and guidelines?	
	7. Is a risk management framework and supporting structures in	
	place for the identification, assessment and management of risk?	
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	Are there systems in place to effectively manage risk, including a	
	designated person or people to contact in an emergency?	
	8. Is there an internal management structure appropriate to the size	
	and purpose and function of the residential centre?	
	Has the provider ensured that alternative management	
	arrangements are in place for when the person in charge is	
	absent?	
	10. Where the person in charge delegates some or all of their duties to	
	one or more appropriately qualified staff members, is a written	
	record kept of when, and to who, such duties have been delegated	
	and the key decisions made?	

Judgment

Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.

Substantially compliant means that *action, within a reasonable time frame*, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.

Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows:

- Major non-compliance: Urgent action⁷ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
- Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

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Dimensions: capac	ity and capability
Standard	Standard 5.3
	The residential centre has a publicly available statement of purpose that
	accurately and clearly describes the services provided.
Line of inquiry	 Does the centre have a statement of purpose which clearly describes the model of service provision delivered by the centre which includes the following information: the aims, objectives and ethos of the service, the range of services and any specialised facilities provided to meet the needs of children placed at the residential centre, the management and staff employed in the residential centre, the care and support needs of children that the centre intends to meet, arrangements for the wellbeing and safety of children placed in the centre? Does the statement of purpose reflect the day-to-day operation of the residential centre and is it reviewed and revised in line with regulatory requirements? Is the statement of purpose publicly available and communicated to staff, children and their families in an accessible format? Do staff understand the model of care as outlined in the statement of purpose and the centre's overall aims and the outcomes it seeks to achieve for children? Is the statement of purpose reviewed and evaluated as part of the residential centre's governance arrangements, in order to provide assurance that services are being delivered in line with the
	statement of purpose?
Judgment	Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.Substantially compliant means that action, within a reasonable
	time frame, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s)
	 who use the service and make a judgment as follows: Major non-compliance: Urgent action⁸ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety,
	health and welfare of people using the service.

 $^{^{8}}$ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

•	Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the
	provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety,
	health and welfare of people using the service.

Dimensions: capac	city and capability
Standard	Standard 5.4 The registered provider ensures that the residential centre strives to continually improve the safety and quality of the care and support provided to achieve better outcomes for children.
Line of inquiry	 Is the quality, safety and continuity of care provided to children in the residential centre regularly reviewed to inform improvements in practices and to achieve better outcomes for children? Are arrangements put in place by the provider to assess the safety and quality of care provided in the centre against the National Standards for Children's Residential Centres? Has the provider ensured that information relating to complaints, concerns and incidents is recorded, acted on, monitored and analysed? Is learning from these events and any trends identified communicated to all staff in the centre to promote improvements? Has the provider ensured that an annual review of compliance with the centre's objectives is conducted and timely action is taken to promote improvements in work practices and to achieve better outcomes for children?
Judgment	Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate. Substantially compliant means that action, within a reasonable time frame, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service. Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows: Major non-compliance: Urgent action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service. Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

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Dimensions: capac	city and capability
Standard	Standard 6.1
	The registered provider plans, organises and manages the workforce to
	deliver child-centred, safe and effective care and support.
Regulation	Regulation 6: Staffing
Line of inquiry	Does the residential centre regularly undertake workforce
	planning?
	2. Are there appropriate numbers of staff employed in the
	residential centre with regard to the number and needs of the
	children in the centre and the centre's statement of purpose?
	3. Are there sufficient numbers of staff with the necessary
	experience and competencies to meet the needs of the children
	living in the centre at all times?
	4. Does workforce planning take account of annual leave, study
	leave, maternity leave, sick leave and contingency cover for
	emergencies? Where it is necessary, are additional staff
	members accessed from a panel of suitably qualified and
	experienced staff that, as far as possible, have experience of
	working in the residential centre and are familiar to the children
	living in the centre?
	5. Are arrangements in place to promote staff retention and
	continuity of care to ensure children experience stability?
	6. Are there formalised procedures for on-call arrangements at
	evenings and weekends?
	7. Is staff recruitment and retention in line with relevant Irish and
	European legislation and informed by evidence-based human
	resource practices?
	8. Does the provider recruit and retain staff with the necessary
	qualifications, skills, competencies and personal attributes,
	appropriate to their role, to provide care and support to
	children placed in the centre?
	9. Does the provider ensure that staff are registered with the
	relevant professional regulatory body as appropriate?
	10. Do managers have an appropriate management qualification
	and have sufficient practice and management experience to
	manage the centre and meet its stated purpose, aims and
	objectives?
	11. Do all staff in the centre have up-to-date written job
	descriptions and copy of their terms and conditions of
	employment?
	12. Is an up-to-date, accurate and secure personnel file maintained
	for all staff, in line with regulatory requirements?
	13. Is there a written code of conduct for staff? Do staff also
	adhere to the codes of conduct of their own professional body,
	association and or professional regulatory body?

Judgment

Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.

Substantially compliant means that *action, within a reasonable time frame,* is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.

Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows:

- **Major non-compliance**: *Urgent action*¹⁰ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
- Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

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Dimensions: qualit	y and safety
Standard	Standard 6.2
	The registered provider recruits people with the required competencies to
	manage and deliver child-centred, safe and effective care and support.
Line of in action	1. In staff warm item and nationalism in line with naturant leich and
Line of inquiry	 Is staff recruitment and retention in line with relevant Irish and European legislation and informed by evidence-based human resource practices? Does the provider recruit and retain staff with the necessary
	qualifications, skills, competencies and personal attributes, appropriate to their role, to provide care and support to children placed in the centre? Does the provider ensure that staff are registered with the relevant professional regulatory body as
	 appropriate? 3. Do managers have an appropriate management qualification and have sufficient practice and management experience to manage the centre and meet its stated purpose, aims and objectives? 4. Do all staff in the centre have up-to-date written job descriptions and copy of their terms and conditions of employment? 5. Is an up-to-date, accurate and secure personnel file maintained for all staff, in line with regulatory requirements?
	Is there a written code of conduct for staff? Do staff also adhere to the codes of conduct of their own professional body, association and or professional regulatory body?
Judgment	Compliant : A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.
	Substantially compliant means that action, within a reasonable time frame, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.
	Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows:
	 Major non-compliance: Urgent action¹¹ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
	 Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

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Dimensions: capac	ity and capability
Standard	Standard 6.3
	The registered provider ensures that the residential centre support and
	supervise their workforce in delivering child-centred, safe and effective
	care and support.
Line of Inquiry	1. Do staff in the centre understand their roles and responsibilities,
	have clear accountability and reporting lines, and are aware of
	policies and procedures to be followed at all times?
	2. Are staff in the centre supported to effectively exercise their
	professional judgment and exercise collective accountability to
	provide a child-centred, safe and effective service?
	3. Are there procedures in place to protect staff and minimise the risk
	to their safety? Where risks to staff safety are identified, are
	procedures followed and is appropriate action taken?
	4. Is there a culture of learning and development in the residential
	centre and are staff encouraged to develop their skills and
	practices, and avail of learning opportunities and reflective
	practice? Are staff encouraged and supported to learn from their
	colleagues within the residential centre and to share learning
	between centres?
	5. Is a team-based approach to working promoted through regular
	team meetings, reflective learning and effective communication in
	relation to supporting and caring for each child in a consistent
	manner?
	6. Is a clear supervision policy is in place and do staff receive regular
	supervision from appropriately qualified and experienced staff? Are
	records of supervision signed by both the supervisor and the staff
	member maintained?
	7. Do all staff in the centre receive supervision training in line with
	the centre's policy?
	8. Is an individual staff member's performance formally appraised,
	at least once a year? Is a written record kept of each performance
	appraisal and is this signed by both the supervisor and the staff
	member?
	9. Is a policy and systems in place which outline the appropriate
	supports to manage the impact of working in the centre, for
	example access to an employee assistance programme?
Judgment	Compliant : A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as
	the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance
	with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.
	Substantially compliant means that action, within a reasonable
	time frame, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the
	safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.
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	Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s)

who use the service and make a judgment as follows:

- Major non-compliance: *Urgent action*¹² is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
- Moderate non-compliance: *Priority action* is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

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Dimensions: capac	city and capability
Standard	Standard 7.1 Residential centres plan and manage the use of available resources to deliver child-centred, safe and effective care and support.
Line of inquiry	 Is the residential centre resourced and are the resources available effectively allocated to ensure the delivery of care that meets the needs of children placed in the centre, in accordance with the centre's statement of purpose? Are there clear plans that take account of the funding and resources available to ensure that child-centred, safe and effective services are provided? Does the residential centre demonstrate transparent and effective decision-making when planning, procuring and managing the use of resources? Are sustainability measures incorporated into the planning, management and use of resources? Are resources provided to children in the residential centre appropriate to each child's needs and are managed in a child-centred way? Are resources planned and managed to meet the needs of children and their families, and to help facilitate family contact, in line with
Judgment	 Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate. Substantially compliant means that action, within a reasonable time frame, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service. Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows: Major non-compliance: Urgent action¹⁴ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service. Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

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Dimensions: capac	ity and capability
Standard	Standard 8.1
	Information is used to plan, manage and deliver child-centred, safe and
	effective care and support.
Line of inquiry	 Is information collated, managed, used and shared to inform decision-making and to promote improvements in the service? Are arrangements in place to evaluate and manage the safety and quality of the service provided through audit, self-assessment and the use of key performance indicators to monitor trends? For example, records of incidents, exit interviews with children and significant event notifications are used to inform and improve practice?
	 3. Is information recorded and communicated in a timely manner to support effective, high-quality care? 4. Is information gathered on each child when they are placed in the centre, and regularly reviewed throughout their time in the residential centre, to identify risk and inform the types of supports the child is likely to need? Are records of incidents kept and used to inform the child's future care? 5. Are each child and their family advised by the residential centre on the recording and intended use of all personal information as appropriate, in line with current legislation and best practice? Is information recorded and shared in accordance with the child's care and placement plans?
Judgment	 Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate. Substantially compliant means that action, within a reasonable time frame, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service. Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows: Major non-compliance: Urgent action¹⁵ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service. Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

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Dimensions: capa	city and capability	
Standard	Standard 8.2	
	Effective arrangements are in place for information governance and records	
	management to deliver child-centred, safe and effective care and support.	
Regulation	Regulation 21: Maintenance of Register	
Line of inquiry	Are information governance arrangements in place to ensure that	
	the residential centre complies with legislation, uses information	
	ethically, and uses best available evidence to protect children's	
	personal information?	
	2. Are records required to deliver a child-centred, safe and effective	
	service up to date, relevant, of a high quality and accurate at all times?	
	3. Does the residential centre hold a register (electronic or hard copy)	
	in line with statutory requirements which details the relevant	
	information in respect of each child living in the centre?	
	4. Is the privacy of each child's personal information protected and	
	respected? Is all personal information treated as confidential and	
	held in line with legislative, regulatory and best practice	
	requirements?	
	5. Are arrangements in place for sharing and transferring information	
	in an efficient and timely manner to support effective decision-	
	making? Do these arrangements clearly outline who staff share	
	personal information with, in the best interest of each individual	
	child, and the manner in which this is done to protect the privacy	
	and confidentiality of the child the information relates to?	
	6. Is there a policy for the retention and destruction of records in line	
	with legislative requirements?	
	7. Is there a policy in place for managing requests and access to	
	information?	
	8. Are arrangements in place for children to access a copy of their	
	personal information, as appropriate, on request?	
Judgment	Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as	
	the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance	
	with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.	
	Substantially compliant means that <i>action, within a reasonable time frame,</i> is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.	
	Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who	
	use the service and make a judgment as follows:	

- **Major non-compliance:** *Urgent action* ¹⁶ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
- Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

¹⁶ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

Section 2 Quality and safety

The focus of this section is about the lived experience of the people using the service.

This includes how people:

- make choices and are actively involved in shaping the services they receive
- are empowered to exercise their rights, achieve their personal goals, hopes, and aspirations
- receive effective person-centred care and support, at all stages of their lives
- are able to live in a safe, comfortable and homely environment
- have food and drink that is nutritious
- are protected from any harm or abuse.

Dimensions: quali	ity and safety
Standard	Standard 1.1
	Each child experiences care and support which respects their diversity and
	protects their rights in line with the United Nations (UN) Convention on the
	Rights of the Child.
Regulation	Regulation 10: Religion
	Regulation 4: Welfare of child
Line of inquiry	 Are all staff in the centre aware of and promote and protect the rights of children, as prescribed in the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child and in Irish law? Do staff in the centre inform children of their rights and is each child supported to exercise and understand their rights in a manner that is appropriate to their age, ability and stage of development? Is there a culture of respect for each child in the residential centre, specifically in terms of their diversity, their right to participate in decision-making and freedom of expression? Do staff work with children and enable them to be understanding of and open to cultural differences? Is each child treated with dignity and respect? Is their equality promoted and their age, gender, family status, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, race, religious beliefs and ethnic and cultural identity respected? Is each child's dietary requirements, social, cultural and religious
	beliefs and values, and the views expressed by the child and their parents, taken into account in the daily activities of the residential centre. Do staff in the centre keep a record of this as part of the child's Care Record?
Judgment	Compliant : A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.
	Substantially compliant means that <i>action, within a reasonable time frame,</i> is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.
	Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows:
	 Major non-compliance: Urgent action¹⁷ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
	 Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

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¹⁷ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

Dimensions: quali	ty and safety	
Standard	Standard 1.2	
	Each child's dignity and privacy is respected and promoted.	
Line of inquiry	1. Is the dignity and privacy of each child respected with regard to	
	personal space, personal communications, professional	
	consultations, personal information and the provision of intimate	
	care, if required?	
	2. Is each child's personal belongings respected? Is the importance of	
	particular items of significance recognised and personal belongings	
	maintained?	
	3. Is each child given opportunities to spend time by themselves, in	
	line with their age and stage of development?	
	4. Are any limits placed on the privacy of a child in line with their	
	assessed needs, have a clear rationale, are documented in their	
	care plan and placement plan and are clearly explained?	
	5. Is each child informed about who their personal information is	
	shared with and the reasons for the information being shared are	
	clearly explained?	
	6. Has each child memorabilia of their childhood when they leave	
	care; for example, certificates of achievement, photographs and	
	home videos are stored safely and kept up to date in a memory	
	box or life story book?	
Judgment	Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as	
	the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance	
	with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.	
	Substantially compliant masses that action within a reasonable	
	Substantially compliant means that <i>action, within a reasonable time frame,</i> is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the	
	safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.	
	earery, meaning and meaning are controlled	
	Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s)	
	who use the service and make a judgment as follows:	
	 Major non-compliance: Urgent action¹⁸ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, 	
	health and welfare of people using the service.	
	nearth and wellare of people using the service.	
	• Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the	
	provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety,	
	health and welfare of people using the service.	

¹⁸ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

Dimensions: qual	ity and safety	
Standard	Standard 1.3	
	Each child exercises choice, has access to an advocacy service and is	
	enabled to participate in making informed decisions about their care.	
	<u> </u>	
Line of inquiry	 Is each child, in accordance with their wishes, encouraged and supported to exercise choice and have opportunities to participate in and contribute to decisions made about their care and support? Do staff in the centre encourage and facilitate children to express their views and opinions through different forums in order to inform policies, practices and the daily running of the centre? For example, where appropriate, are children encouraged to be actively involved in the running and coordination of 'house 	
	meetings', or to share their views in more informal settings such as at mealtimes?	
	3. Is each child assigned a key worker with whom they can establish a relationship of support and trust? Is careful consideration given to determining the key worker for each child to facilitate a positive relationship and, where possible, is the child's input sought in advance of a key worker being assigned?	
	4. Is each child provided with all relevant information, in a format that is appropriate to their age, stage of development and communication needs, to enhance their participation in decision-making?	
	5. Is each child made aware of what information is recorded about them and can read their own records, where appropriate?	
	6. Is each child informed about advocacy services to ensure they understand the role of advocacy services and are supported to access advocacy services as necessary?	
	7. Is each child provided with all relevant information and support for self-advocacy appropriate to their age and circumstances?	
Judgment	Compliant : A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.	
	Substantially compliant means that <i>action, within a reasonable time frame,</i> is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.	
	Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows:	
	 Major non-compliance: Urgent action¹⁹ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service. 	

¹⁹ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

	Moderate non-compliance: <i>Priority action</i> is required by the
	provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety,
	health and welfare of people using the service.

Dimensions: qualit	y and safety
Standard	Standard 1.4
	Each child has access to information, provided in an accessible format that
	takes account of their communication needs.
Line of inquiry	Is all information communicated in a way that is appropriate to the
Line of inquiry	information and communication needs of each child?
	2. Is each child provided with information about the residential centre
	and what to expect from living there?
	3. Is each child provided with information on a variety of issues,
	including the services and supports available to them, in line with
	their age and stage of development? Does the level and type of
	information provided change as the child develops?
	4. Is each child provided with information about themselves, their
	families and previous life experiences, including information about
	why they are living in residential care? Is information shared with
	each child in line with their best interests?
	5. Is each child provided with a copy of the National Standards for
	Children's Residential Centres or a guide to the standards? Do staff
	in the centre spend time explaining the standards to each child?
Judgment	Compliant : A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance
	with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.
	Substantially compliant means that action, within a reasonable
	time frame, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the
	safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.
	Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s)
	who use the service and make a judgment as follows:
	Maior man committee of the state of the stat
	 Major non-compliance: Urgent action²⁰ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety,
	health and welfare of people using the service.
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	 Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the
	provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety,
	health and welfare of people using the service.

²⁰ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

Dimensions: qualit	ty and safety		
Standard	Standard 1.5		
	Each child develops and maintains positive attachments and links with		
	family, the community, and other significant people in their lives.		
Regulation	Regulation 8: Access arrangements		
Line of inquiry	Do all staff in the centre recognise and promote the important role		
	that parents, families, friends, other significant people and		
	communities play in children's lives? Are families kept informed of		
	and consulted about developments in the residential centre, in line		
	with the child's care plan?		
	2. Is family contact planned, supported and facilitated, in line with the		
	child's care plan and wishes? Where it is not possible to arrange		
	visits with family members, are alternative contact methods used		
	as appropriate?		
	3. Are families and friends encouraged to visit the centre and involved		
	in each child's life, in line with their care plan? Do parents have		
	every opportunity to have a positive input into the care of their		
	child and are invited to participate in events, such as school		
	meetings, celebrations and medical appointments?		
	4. Are siblings placed together where possible? Where this is not		
	possible, do staff in the centre and the allocated social workers of		
	the siblings work together so that siblings are supported to spend		
	time with each other? Are arrangements made for siblings to have		
	contact, in line with the children's care plans?		
	5. Where a child is placed away from their original community, are all		
	efforts made to maintain links with family, the community and		
	other significant people in their lives, in line with the child's care		
	plan?		
	6. Is each child supported and encouraged to develop and maintain		
	interests, talents and hobbies and to engage in social activities and		
	leisure interests as part of the local community?		
	7. Are special occasions such as birthdays and personal achievements		
	marked, celebrated and documented?		
	Has each child appropriate access to a telephone and appropriate		
	media, such as television, newspapers and the Internet?		
Judgment	Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as		
	the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance		
	with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.		
	Substantially compliant means that action, within a reasonable		
	time frame, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the		
	safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.		
	Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s)		
	who use the service and make a judgment as follows:		

- **Major non-compliance:** *Urgent action*²¹ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
- Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

²¹ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

Dimensions: qual	ity and safety
Standard	Standard 2.1
	Each child's identified needs informs their placement in the residential
	centre.
Line of inquiry	Is there a written policy on admission to the residential centre which
	takes account of: the rights of children
	 the National Standards for Children's Residential Services regulations and legislation
	the centre's statement of purpose
	2. Does the provider work with the allocated social worker to ensure, prior to the admission of the child, that the residential centre is suitable to meet the needs of the child?
	3. Has the provider ensured that staff in the centre work with the allocated social worker so that each child has a comprehensive assessment of need?
	4. Has the provider ensured that all proposed admissions to the residential centre are considered and assessed against the centre's
	statement of purpose to make sure that the centre can meet the needs of each child, as documented in the child's up-to-date and comprehensive assessment of need?
	5. In determining the appropriateness of placing a new child in the centre, are the needs and rights of the children already living there considered?
	6. Is each child given opportunities to become familiar with the day-to-day living arrangements in the centre, the children who live there, and the staff that care for them?
Judgment	Compliant : A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.
	Substantially compliant means that <i>action, within a reasonable time frame,</i> is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.
	Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows:
	 Major non-compliance: Urgent action²² is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
	 Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety,

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²² Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

health and welfare of people using the service.

Dimensions: quality and safety		
Standard	Standard 2.2	
	Each child receives care and support based on their individual needs in	
	order to maximise their wellbeing and personal development.	
Regulation	Regulation 23: Care Plan	
	Regulation 24: Supervision and visiting of children	
	Regulation 25: Review of cases	
	Regulation 26: Special review	
Line of inquiry	Is there a copy of an up-to-date care plan for each child? Are arrangements in place for the residential centre to receive an up-to-date care plan for each child from the allocated social worker? Does	
	the centre work with the allocated social worker and all other people involved in the child's care to implement the care plan?	
	2. Is there an up-to-date placement plan in place for each child? Is this based on their care plan and is it prepared by the child's key worker or other nominated member of staff in the centre, with input from	
	the residential centre staff team? Does the placement plan detail the child's needs and outline the supports required to ensure the best outcomes for the child?	
	3. Is each child facilitated to participate in the placement planning process? Is the child's family also provided with opportunities to input into and inform the placement plan, in line with the child's care plan?	
	4. Are individual, achievable goals determined in consultation with the child following admission and regularly reviewed and updated as part of the placement plan review?	
	5. Is each child supported and facilitated to access the identified external supports and specialist services in line with their care plan? Where these are not meeting the needs of a child, is this communicated to the allocated social worker by staff in the centre	
	in a timely way?	
	6. Is there effective communication between staff in the centre and	
	the allocated social worker to ensure continuity of care and	
	adherence to each child's care plan and placement plan?	
Judgment	Compliant : A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.	
	Substantially compliant means that <i>action, within a reasonable time frame,</i> is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.	
	Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows:	

- **Major non-compliance:** *Urgent action*²³ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
- Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

²³ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

Dimensions: quality and safety	
Standard	Standard 2.3
	The children's residential centre is homely, and promotes the safety and
	wellbeing of each child.
Regulation	Regulation 7: Accommodation
	Regulation 12: Fire precautions
	Regulation 13: Safety precautions
	Regulation 14: Insurance
Line of inquiry	Is the layout and design of the residential centre suitable for
	providing safe and effective care for the number of children, and for
	meeting the needs of each child, in the centre?
	2. Has each child their own bedroom and are there adequate and
	secure storage facilities for personal belongings?
	3. Is the residential centre stimulating and does it provide
	opportunities for rest, play, recreation and skills development
	including access to adequate communal space for both indoor and
	outdoor recreational facilities? Are outdoor spaces, which are part of
	the premises, safe, secure and well maintained?
	4. Is all equipment purchased for the centre of an appropriate and
	accessible standard, and maintained and operated in line with the
	manufacturer's instructions and good practice?
	5. Are the premises clean, appropriately decorated and maintained in
	good structural condition?
	6. Are children encouraged to participate in decorating the centre and
	to display personal items, such as family photographs, if they wish
	to do so?
	7. Are the bathroom facilities sufficient in number and ensure privacy?
	8. Is the residential centre adequately lit, heated and ventilated?
	9. Does the residential centre comply with the requirements of fire
	safety legislation, relevant building regulations and health and
	safety legislation? Is there a safety statement in place for the
	centre?
	10. Are there procedures in place for managing risks to the health and
	safety of children, staff and visitors? Are all reasonable measures
	taken to prevent accidents and reduce the risk of injury in and on
	the grounds of the residential centre? Are any accidents or injuries
	that do occur reported accordingly and if an incident occurs to a
	child, is it documented in their Care Record?
	11. Are all vehicles used to transport children and staff roadworthy,
	regularly serviced, insured and driven by people who are legally
	licensed to drive the vehicle?
Judgment	Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as
	the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance
	with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.
	Substantially compliant means that action, within a reasonable time
	frame, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety,
L	Trainer, is required to minigate the non-compliance and ensure the surety,

health and welfare of the children using the service.

Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows:

- **Major non-compliance:** *Urgent action*²⁴ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
- Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

²⁴ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

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Dimensions: quality and safety	
Standard	Standard 2.5
	Each child experiences integrated care which is coordinated effectively
	within and between services.
Line of inquiry	Has the provider put arrangements in place to allow for
	communication and cooperation within and between services to
	deliver better outcomes for each child?
	2. Do relevant staff in the centre work in partnership with each child,
	the allocated social worker and the child's family, in line with the
	child's care plan, to ensure continuity of care on discharge from the
	centre? Is a discharge plan prepared before the child leaves the
	centre, in a timely manner?
	3. Where a child is preparing to leave care, do staff in the centre work
	with the allocated social worker and where possible, the aftercare
	worker to ensure continuity of care and facilitate access to
	aftercare, where applicable?
	4. Where a child is moving to a different service, is this planned and
	managed in accordance with each child's needs, their care plan and
	the centre's policy, and support is coordinated during the transition?
	5. Is each child and their family, in line with the child's care plan,
	involved in the decision-making process and provided with
	information about moving to a new service or being discharged
	from the residential centre?
	6. Is each child fully involved in any move to a new service or
	discharge from the centre and the reason for this is clearly
	explained to them? Are children provided with an opportunity to
	give and receive feedback in relation to their placement, for
	example through an exit interview? Is the information used to
	inform improvements in the quality and safety of the centre?
	7. Has the person in charge ensured that all relevant information
	relating to each child is transferred following their discharge from
	the centre, in line with regulatory requirements?
	8. Is the effectiveness of children's experience of integrated care
	regularly evaluated, including through seeking feedback from each
	child?
Judgment	Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as
	the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance
	with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.
	Substantially compliant mass that satisfy within a recognition
	Substantially compliant means that action, within a reasonable time frame, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the
	safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.
	and the service of the ormal of doing the service.
	Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who
	use the service and make a judgment as follows:

- Major non-compliance: *Urgent action*²⁵ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
 - Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

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Dimensions: quali	ty and safety
Standard	Standard 2.6
	Each child is supported in the transition from childhood to adulthood.
Line of inquiry	1. Is each child listened to and involved in the decision-making process about the transition from childhood to adulthood? Are supports in place to ensure that a planned transition based around the needs of the child is delivered? Do staff in the centre work with the allocated social worker and the aftercare worker to develop an aftercare plan for each child, reflective of their needs and goals?
	2. Are aftercare planning and preparations for leaving care promoted during the placement both formally and informally, for example by incorporating it into sessions with the key worker?
	3. Is leaving care discussed, planned for and agreed with the child and their parents or guardians, in line with the child's care plan?
	4. Do staff in the centre work with each child to prepare them for their aftercare placement and increase the likelihood of positive outcomes for the child, for example by encouraging children to acquire life skills through real life experiences?
	5. Do staff in the centre support each child in their preparation for leaving care and in the implementation of their aftercare plan, so that they can work with them in making the transition to adulthood, for example to independent living, or returning to their families or significant people in their lives, or other options that
	may be available to them? 6. When leaving care, is each child supported to access and review their file and to access copies of important documents such as birth certificate, medical records and education records?
Judgment	Compliant : A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.
	Substantially compliant means that <i>action, within a reasonable time frame,</i> is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.
	Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows:
	■ Major non-compliance: <i>Urgent action</i> ²⁶ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
	 Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety,

 $^{^{26}}$ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

health and welfare of people using the service.

Dimensions: qualit	Dimensions: quality and safety	
Standard	Standard 3.1	
	Each child is safeguarded from abuse and neglect and their care and	
	welfare is protected and promoted.	
Line of inquiry	Has the provider ensured that the residential centre operates in	
Line of inquiry	line with and complies with the relevant policies as outlined in Children First and relevant legislation?	
	2. Does the residential centre have policies and procedures in place to protect children from all forms of abuse and neglect, in line with Children First and relevant legislation and to minimise its effect, where it does occur?	
	3. Has the residential centre policies and procedures in place to address all forms of bullying, in line with Children First and relevant legislation and to minimise its effect, where it does occur? Does this include procedures to prevent and address bullying and harassment by other children, staff or people in the residential centre including visitors, and possible exploitation on the Internet and social media?	
	4. Do all staff in the centre understand and implement safeguarding policies and procedures, and receive regular training in safeguarding children and in the prevention, detection and response to abuse?	
	5. Do staff in the centre work in partnership with children, families and the child's allocated social worker to promote the safety and wellbeing of children?	
	6. Is each child assisted and supported to develop the knowledge, self-awareness, understanding and skills needed for self-care and protection that is sensitive to age, ability, personal history and stage of development? Are children supported to speak out when they are feeling unsafe or vulnerable?	
	7. Are individual areas of vulnerability identified, and are individual safeguards put in place and recorded in each child's Care Record?	
	8. Are parents and or guardians informed of any incident or allegation of abuse?	
	Is there a policy and procedure on protected disclosures? Are staff in the centre aware of who they report a protected disclosure to and can do so without fear of adverse consequences to themselves?	

Judgment

Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.

Substantially compliant means that *action, within a reasonable time frame,* is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.

Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows:

- Major non-compliance: Urgent action²⁷ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
- Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

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²⁷ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

Dimensions: quali	ty and safety
Standard	Standard 3.2
	Each child experiences care and support that promotes positive behavior.
Line of inquiry	1. Is a positive approach to the management of behaviour that
	challenges promoted; supported by policies and procedures based
	on international human rights instruments, legislation, regulations,
	national policy and evidence-based practice guidelines?
	2. Do staff in the centre have up-to-date knowledge and skills,
	appropriate to their role, have access to specialist advice and
	appropriate support, and are trained in the centre's child-centred
	behavioural management policies and practices to:
	respond to and manage behaviour that challenges,
	 provide positive behavioural support to a child to manage their
	behaviour,
	 identify underlying causes of behaviour and situations that may
	lead to behaviour that challenges, and to assist and support a
	child to manage their behaviour,
	 have an awareness of mental health issues, bullying,
	harassment, neglect and abuse, and how these can impact on
	the behaviour of children,
	 understand and respond to behaviour and verbal and non-verbal
	communication that may indicate an issue of concern?
	3. Is each child supported to develop their understanding of behaviour
	that challenges and behaviour that is respectful of the rights of
	others? Is this communicated in a clear, appropriate and positive
	way to support each child's own growth and development?
	4. Are staff in the centre given all relevant information, appropriate to
	their role, required to support each child with behaviour that
	challenges or any issues that a child may have that could influence
	their behaviour?
	5. Has the provider ensured the provision of positive behavioural
	support, as outlined in its policy, by regularly auditing and
	monitoring the residential centre's approach to managing behaviour
	that challenges? Are arrangements in place, where appropriate, for
	audits to be undertaken by personnel external to the centre?
	6. Children are not subjected to any restrictive procedure unless there
	is evidence that it has been assessed as being required due to a
	serious risk to the safety and welfare of the child or that of others?
	7 Whore rectrictive procedures are desired increased by
	7. Where restrictive procedures are deemed necessary, has the person
	in charge ensured that:
	 Every effort made to identify and alleviate the cause of the child's
	behaviour?
	 All alternative procedures considered before a restrictive procedure
	7 iii alternative procedures considered before a restrictive procedure

is used?

- Where restrictive procedures must be used, the least restrictive procedure used for the shortest duration necessary?
- The use of restrictive procedures recorded in the child's Care Record and is each use monitored on an on-going basis?
- A debrief is carried out following the use of a restrictive procedure with each child, their family, in line with the child's care plan and relevant staff members to review the use of the intervention and record the learning?
- 8. Where restrictive procedures were required, were only approved and agreed techniques used in accordance with the child's risk assessment?

Judgment

Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.

Substantially compliant means that *action, within a reasonable time frame*, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.

Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows:

- **Major non-compliance:** *Urgent action*²⁸ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
- Moderate non-compliance: *Priority action* is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

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²⁸ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

Dimensions: qualit	y and safety
Standard	Standard 4.1
	The health, wellbeing and development of each child is promoted,
	protected and improved.
Regulation	Regulation 11: Provision of food and cooking facilities
Line of inquiry	Has the provider ensured that practices and initiatives to promote
	and protect the life, health, safety, development and welfare of
	each child, are developed and implemented in the centre, in line
	with the service's objectives and in consultation with children and
	their families?
	Do health promotion initiatives within the residential centre
	prioritise the importance of good physical and mental health and
	wellbeing, and detail what supports are available to children? For
	example, each child's key worker promotes and supports their
	health and wellbeing through guidance and advice on diet and
	nutrition, smoking prevention and cessation, alcohol, the use of
	illegal substances, exercise and physical health, mental health,
	self-care, safe relationships and sexual health and wellbeing?
	3. Has the provider ensured that staff in the centre cooperate with
	other service providers and other statutory and non-statutory
	agencies to promote the health and development of children?
	4. Is each child provided with adequate quantities of food and drinks
	which are properly and safely prepared? Are options of wholesome
	and nutritious meals and snacks available?
	5. Is each child supported and encouraged to learn to cook for
	themselves? Do staff consult with children about what they would
	like to eat, taking into account any cultural and religious beliefs or
	special dietary requirements?
	6. Do staff in the centre and children eat meals together and are
	these regarded as a positive social event?
	7. Is each child enabled and supported to develop skills in
	preparation for leaving care? Do outcomes outlined in advance of
	leaving care provide the child with opportunities to:
	 develop the necessary life and social skills
	 acquire the resilience to cope with adversity
	establish the appropriate support networks for when they
	leave care?
	8. Is each child educated and supported by staff in the centre to
	exercise autonomy in decision-making, managing money, making
	appointments, managing their medicines and resolving conflict in
	preparation for when they leave care?
	9. Is each child supported to source further education, training or
	employment opportunities, in line with their abilities?
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Judgment

Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.

Substantially compliant means that *action, within a reasonable time frame,* is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.

Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows:

- **Major non-compliance:** *Urgent action*²⁹ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
- Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

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²⁹ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

Dimensions: qualit	y and safety
Standard	Standard 4.2
	Each child is supported to meet any identified health and development
Dogulation	needs.
Regulation	Regulation 9: Health care Regulation 20: Medical examination
Line of inquiry	 Is each child's physical and mental health needs, as outlined in their care plan, informed by a health and development assessment, and this informs any necessary interventions or supports? Do staff in the centre work with the allocated social worker to ensure that care records contain a clear and complete record of all medical and health information from birth? This includes details of a child's referral to medical, psychiatric, psychology, dental, ophthalmic or other specialist services, as required? Does each child have access to a general practitioner (GP) or a suitably qualified medical practitioner and, where possible, each child remains registered with their family GP? Is appropriate information shared with the GP to ensure they provide the best possible care? Do staff in the centre and the allocated social worker work together to access specialist services to meet the individual needs of each child? Has the provider ensured that there is a medicines management policy in place in the residential centre, in line with legislative and professional regulatory requirements and best practice?
Judgment	 Compliant: A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance with the relevant regulation, if appropriate. Substantially compliant means that action, within a reasonable time frame, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service. Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows: Major non-compliance: Urgent action³⁰ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service. Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

 $^{^{30}}$ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.

Dimensions: qualit	ty and safety
Standard	Standard 4.3
	Each child is provided with educational and training opportunities to
	maximise their individual strengths and abilities.
Line of inquiry	
	training and educational goals? Are they supported by their allocated social worker and other support services to explore their
	options and realise their potential, which will inform their care plan and aftercare plan?
Judgment	Compliant : A judgment of compliant means that no action is required as the service or centre has fully met the standard and is in full compliance
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	with the relevant regulation, if appropriate.

Substantially compliant means that *action, within a reasonable time frame*, is required to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of the children using the service.

Non-Compliant means we will assess the impact on the individual(s) who use the service and make a judgment as follows:

- **Major non-compliance:** *Urgent action*³¹ is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.
- Moderate non-compliance: Priority action is required by the provider to mitigate the non-compliance and ensure the safety, health and welfare of people using the service.

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³¹ Where a major non-compliance judgment presents an 'immediate risk' to the safety, health or welfare of people using the service, the inspector may issue an urgent compliance plan on the day of inspection.



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