

Residential/Nursing Care for Younger Adults with Disabilities

People with learning disability and other vulnerable adults can consider a number of possible options if they need accommodation and continuous care. A registered care home is one of these; the others are supported living – see factsheet *FS21 – Supported Living* or shared lives (adult placement) – see factsheet *FS22 – Shared Lives – Adult Placement*.

The most important features of residential or nursing care are:

1. Care homes provide an integrated package of care and support.
2. They need to be registered with the Care Quality Commission as “an establishment providing residential accommodation together with nursing or personal care,” and have to meet wide enforceable standards of quality and service.
3. The service covers all aspects of a person’s daily life including provision of meals, regular routines and activities, and holidays as well as accommodation and care. The fees cover all of this.
4. Because this is an integrated service, if there is a problem with either the accommodation or the care provided, then the person may need to move.
5. A resident’s personal income is limited in a care home and they cannot claim housing benefit.
6. People do not have security of tenure; they can be asked to leave at any time, although usually the home would have to give at least one month’s notice.
7. The service can be provided in small group homes (four or five people) or in larger units with up to 20 people.
8. If somebody lives in a residential care home they cannot choose who they live with, or who supports and cares for them.
9. People can expect to have a say in decision making about day to day issues in the home, but this would be jointly with the other residents.

Care homes for younger adults may offer long term accommodation. Alternatively young people may choose to live there on a transitional basis for one to three years whilst they are supported to develop skills for more independent living.

Further factsheets can be found online at www.devon.gov.uk/factsheets

If you have any further questions please contact **Care Direct 0845 1551 007**

A large print version of this factsheet is available on www.devon.gov.uk/largeprint-factsheets but if you would like it in a different format such as Braille or audio, or in a different language, please contact our Customer Service Centre on 0845 155 1015 or email customer@devon.gov.uk.