

choosing a care home

Key things to look for when looking around a care home

Residential Care

Dementia Care

Respite Care - holiday stays and short term care

Initial Reaction

What is your first impression when walking into the care home? Does it feel welcoming and a happy place?

Appearance

What does the care home look like? Does the care home look clean, well decorated and engaging?

Attentiveness of Staff

When walking around the home are people being looked after?

Listen and watch how people are spoken to and ask 'does it feel right?'

Do you believe staff know the residents well and are connecting in sensitive ways?

Level of care

What sort of activities and entertainment are there?

Do residents look happy, content and comfortable?

Disability care

Residents with dementia type illness have a different sense of reality and show different types of behaviour. Do you feel staff are responsive and know what to do?

Community

Is there a sense of a shared community with people living and working alongside each other, more like a family being together?

Wellbeing

Are residents and staff relaxed? Is this a home where people matter first and jobs still get discreetly done?

Do you feel that the home is balanced in providing freedom and safety while residents are encouraged to live as ordinary life as possible?

Inspection Reports

Always take a look at the latest Inspection Report from the care sector's regulatory body Care Quality Commission (CQC) – www.cqc.org.uk