

# Supported Accommodation Sector Awareness and Provider Preparedness programme

## Information for providers



## Introduction

This resource is designed to give a quick overview of where to find key information, guidance, events and opportunities in relation to the new Ofsted regulation regime for providers of supported accommodation for 16- and 17-year-olds in and leaving care.

Ofsted began accepting applications to register on 28 April 2023. Providers of supported accommodation should submit their application as early as possible to enable Ofsted to process applications within the necessary timelines.

## Background

Supported accommodation is a form of accommodation outside of regulated children's homes, kinship care and foster care, which provides supported, semi-independent living for 16- & 17-year-olds who are ready to start living with more independence. From October 2023, all providers of supported accommodation will be required to adhere to mandatory national Quality Standards which will be overseen by Ofsted-led registration and inspection.

## The Guidance and Regulations

The following guidance and regulations are all critical in understanding the requirements providers need to meet in order to register with Ofsted as a supported accommodation provider:

- [Guide to the Supported Accommodation Regulations including Quality Standards](#)
- [Supported accommodation: registering with Ofsted](#)
- [The Supported Accommodation \(England\) Regulations 2023](#)

## The role of the National Children's Bureau (NCB)

NCB is the provider for the Sector Awareness and Provider Preparedness programme in relation to the new quality standards, registration and regulation regime for supported accommodation for young people aged 16 and 17 who are in or leaving care.

NCB's role will focus on raising sector awareness about the new requirements and helping providers prepare for the new system of oversight. Ultimately ensuring that young people living in supported accommodation develop trusted relationships and experience high quality support in nurturing environments that prepare them for adult life.

## Resources from the Sector Awareness and Provider Preparedness National Conferences

NCB ran two national conferences in Manchester (24th April 2023) and London (26th April 2023) as part of the Department for Education funded Sector Awareness and Provider Preparedness programme for Supported Accommodation providers.

Attended by over 200 provider and local authority representatives, the conferences included presentations from the Department for Education, Ofsted, and the National Children's Bureau, workshops for providers and local authorities, as well as a message from Minister for Children and Families Claire Coutinho.

Inclusive theatre company Chickenshed performed an adaptation of their powerful theatre production "Crime of the Century" and facilitated a workshop and performance with young people living in supported accommodation, where they were able to share their views and feelings about the support they want to receive and their aspirations for the future.

You can access the resources and recordings from the conferences [here](#).

### eLearning

You can access the eLearning courses on the Quality Standards and Registration Process [here](#).



### Newsletters and community of practice

You can sign up to the national online community of practice for supported accommodation providers by emailing: [SAPP@ncb.org.uk](mailto:SAPP@ncb.org.uk)

You can sign up for the programme newsletter [here](#).

## Roles and Responsibilities Resources



These resources cover the key responsibilities for each role and responsibilities set out in the new Regulations and Guidance for Supported Accommodation, as well as the requirements that must be met in order to successfully register.

Our infographic guides provide information about each role in a simplified way with accompanying explanatory diagrams. Please see the text only guide for further detail.

Explore our Roles and Responsibilities Resources [here](#).

## Process Map



Our process map provides a clear overview of each stage of the registration process and all actions supported accommodation providers must take to successfully register with Ofsted. It can also be used to track the progress of applications.

Explore the Process Map [here](#).

## Learner Handbook



This resource provides a short overview of each of the policies that are required to register with Ofsted, and the relevant quality standard. It also contains links to the important legal framework, legislation and statutory and non-statutory guidance that should be used by providers when developing policies.

You will also find scenarios throughout the handbook that are designed for providers to reflect on how their policies can support young people and staff within a supported accommodation setting. Each scenario is followed by a notes page.

View the Handbook [here](#).



## Provider Readiness Tool

This tool aims to support providers to be prepared to submit their application to register with Ofsted and meet the requirements of the four Quality Standards.

The tool pulls together in one place the key pieces of evidence that a provider will wish to assure itself on and aims to give a high-level overview of its progress.

The tool presents this information in an easily accessible "at a glance" RAG review rating system to update the Provider on progress in implementation. It also includes a facility for a follow up audit which enables the Provider to demonstrate trends in terms of implementation and flag up any areas which are not moving towards full compliance.

Try out the tool [here](#).

## Frequently Asked Questions

Based on the questions sent to us by providers of supported accommodation and local authorities at the Q&A panel discussions at our conferences, this FAQ covers the most crucial points relating to registration, fees and costs, quality standards and regulation, and inspections and site visits.

This FAQ has been produced in collaboration with the Department for Education and Ofsted and aims to clarify key details about the registration process, where to go for additional information and the expectations on supported accommodation providers as set out in the Department for Education's Guide to Regulations.

Take a look at our helpful FAQ [here](#).

**For more information visit our  
Supported Accommodation Sector  
Awareness and Provider  
Preparedness website [here](#).**



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