

A guide to The Administration of Children's Homes Regulations 1951

The original Act can be accessed via [The Administration of Children's Homes Regulations, 1951 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)

Part 1.

1. For every home provided the managing authority should ensure that the security and well-being of the children is top priority.
2. Each home should be visited monthly by an authorised person to ensure interests and well-being of the children and a record of each visit kept up to date with the name of the authorised person and date of visit. 2b. Where the managing authority is the local authority the authorised person should be part of the sub-committee or a local authority officer. (social worker)
3. The managing authority will appoint the manager of the home. 3b, the manager of the home shall be in charge of the records and make them accessible to the authorized person conducting the visit. 3c, the manager of the home is also responsible for the medical records for the children under their care and ensure they are available to the medical officer or any other officer authorised to inspect them.
4. The managing authority shall ensure each child has access to both religious instruction and services as per their religious persuasion.
5. The managing authority need to provide each home a medical officer. The duties of the medical officer shall include: general supervision of health (excluding dental), supervising hygienic conditions of premises, attend the home at regular intervals to ensure continuity of care, supply regular health checks, offer advice to the manager of the home regarding health and hygiene, supervise the compilation of medical records to ensure they include any physical/mental issues on admission, medical information whilst in the home and conditions on discharge as well as any other provisions.
6. Dental care must be provided for the children.
7. The local authority must inform the secretary of state and the parents of the child when a child dies in a care home, or if they were in a care home two months prior to their death. The secretary of state should also be notified of an outbreak of any infectious disease in children under the age of five within the care home.
8. Adequate fire precautions should be implemented within the home to ensure the children's safety.
9. The children's home should run regular fire drills.
10. Where a fire results in the children being removed from the home, the local authority must inform the secretary of state.
11. No corporal punishment shall be administered by any person apart from the manager or deputy manager when the manager is not available unless the following apply and then no corporal punishment is allowed: a female over the age of ten or a male of school leaving age. A child under ten can only receive a smack on the hand using the bare hand of the person administering the punishment. A male over 10 years but is not a school leaver can be caned on the posterior over his clothing not exceeding six strokes. No caning can be administered

- in front of another child and no corporal punishment can be administered without being sanctioned by the medical officer, or on any child with a physical or mental disability.
12. The secretary of state can limit the number of children within a voluntary home.
 13. The secretary of state can prohibit certain types of clothing within a voluntary home.
 14. The secretary of state should be informed of any requests to visit or communicate with the children from their parents by the voluntary home and will comply with directions given in regard to this.
 15. If the manager of the home quits or otherwise leaves his job the voluntary home should inform the secretary of state of this and who has taken over the position.
 16. Where the home is established or maintained by the local education authority none of the following apply: section 2 nor the duties of the manager under sections 3 and 7, or of the medical officer under section 5, the managing authority under section 6 or section 11 will not apply to the section of the home being used as a school or the children attending that school area.
 17. The regulations apply to all homes provided by the local authority under section 15 and voluntary homes except the following: remand homes as per part 4 of the children and young persons Act 1933, approved probation hostels and approved homes within section 46 of the criminal justice Act 1948 or any voluntary home which is completely subject to inspection by the authority of a government department other than under the children and young persons Act 1933.

Family Lives Matter

As far as the author of this guide can ascertain these regulations are still lawful and there are no discernible changes, amendments or sections repealed.