



BRIGHTER DAYS RESIDENTIAL

LLAWNROC

Privacy Policy

Policy Publication Date: April 2025

Review Date: April 2026

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1. Introduction

Brighter Days Residential Ltd respects the privacy, dignity, and personal space of every child in our care.

This policy outlines how we maintain appropriate boundaries while ensuring children's safety and wellbeing.

It covers bedroom access, searches, personal care, and monitoring, in line with legal, ethical, and safeguarding standards.

2. Entry to Bedrooms

Children's bedrooms are private spaces. Staff may only enter when necessary and with respect for privacy.

Reasons for entry include health/safety checks, fire alarm responses, or supervision as agreed in care plans.

Whenever possible, staff knock and wait for a response before entering. All unscheduled entries are logged.

3. Room Searches

Room searches may occur when there is a clear risk (e.g., weapons, drugs, or missing items).

Searches must be authorised by the RM or DSL, involve two staff, and be recorded with the child informed.

Searches are carried out respectfully and only when proportionate to risk.

4. Bag Searches

Bag searches may be conducted at return from home visits or trips if there is reason to believe prohibited items are present.

Children must be informed and present. Searches are conducted by two staff, with clear records kept.

Refusal to consent is escalated to the RM/DSL for further action and safeguarding review.

5. Personal Searches

Brighter Days staff do not conduct personal (body) searches. If there is concern for safety, the police may be called.

Staff may ask a child to voluntarily empty their pockets in the presence of two staff members.

Any such actions must be documented and reported to the RM or DSL.

6. Strip Searches

Strip searches are not permitted under any circumstances.

If the safety concern is extreme, the police must be contacted to carry out any search under lawful conditions.

7. Showering, Toilets, and Bathing

Children have the right to use bathrooms privately, except where a care plan or risk assessment states otherwise.

Staff must knock before entry and only intervene when safety is at risk or the child requests help.

All staff providing support must be trained in trauma-informed and dignity-respecting care.

8. Laundry

Children are supported to do their own laundry where age-appropriate.

Staff assist only when needed or requested and never search clothing without cause.

Laundry is never used as a monitoring tool.

9. Menstruation

Children who menstruate are supported with dignity and access to appropriate products and facilities.

Products are stored discreetly and replenished as needed.

Staff check in sensitively and follow care plans to support comfort, hygiene, and emotional wellbeing.

10. Intimate Personal Care

Intimate care is only provided where a child's physical condition or disability requires it, and with a written plan in place.

All care must be logged, carried out by trained staff of the appropriate gender (where possible), and in line with the child's wishes and consent.

Privacy, respect, and safeguarding are central to all personal care practices.

11. Risk Assessments and Behaviour Plans

Where any of the above interventions are anticipated, they must be included in the child's risk assessment and behaviour plan.

Plans are reviewed at least every 6 weeks and updated following incidents.

Children and carers should be involved in planning and review discussions.

12. Monitoring of Search and Confiscation

All searches and confiscated items are logged in the home's records and reviewed by the Registered Manager.

Unlawful or dangerous items are either disposed of safely or handed to the police.

Children are informed of decisions and supported after any intervention.

13. Gathering Views

Children are regularly asked how supported and safe they feel regarding privacy and staff boundaries.

Feedback is gathered through keywork sessions, house meetings, and feedback forms.

Children's views help shape policy implementation and future updates.

14. Safeguarding and Child Protection

All concerns arising from searches, care, or privacy matters are referred to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

Staff are trained to spot and report abuse, neglect, or inappropriate conduct.

The Safeguarding Policy must be followed in all cases of suspected harm.

15. Police Involvement

The police may be called if there is immediate risk to life, suspicion of a serious offence, or if prohibited items are found that require lawful seizure.

The decision to involve police must be made by the RM or RI unless urgent.

Children are supported before, during, and after police involvement to minimise trauma.

16. Complaints

Children can make complaints if they feel their privacy has not been respected.

All complaints are handled under the Brighter Days Complaints Policy and are treated seriously and promptly.

Children are always supported in raising their concerns without fear of retribution.

17. Implementation, Monitoring and Review

The Registered Manager is responsible for training staff and ensuring policy compliance.

The policy is reviewed annually or after serious incidents, with feedback from children and professionals.

Records are audited to ensure transparency and improvement.

Appendix 1

Flow chart to support Policy

