

23 July 2026

DOH Care Standards for Nursing and Residential pursuant to FOI 36862

Adults with intellectual disability waiting for care packages

**Supported Living Placement 27
Nursing <5
Residential 14**

1. What is a "supported living placement"?

Supported Living refers to arrangements that enable individuals to live in their own home while receiving the care and support required to maintain their independence. Personal care and support are provided through separate contractual arrangements from those relating to the person's housing. Accommodation may be shared with others or provided within an individual household.

Source: Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE), Supported Living as a Model for Housing with Care and Support. Available at: <https://www.scie.org.uk/housing/role-of-housing/promising-practice/models/supported-living> (accessed July 2026).

2. What are the relevant DOH care standards for a "supported living placement"?

Under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this information is reasonably accessible to you by other means.

Please refer to the DOH website to access information on the Domiciliary Care Agencies Minimum Standards Version 1.2, May 2026.

[Care standards - documents | Department of Health](#)

[Domiciliary Care Agencies Minimum Standards Version 1.2 May 2026.pdf](#)

3. What is "nursing"?

Nursing Home Care is available when individuals require regular care by qualified nursing staff at intervals throughout the day and night to a level which could not be provided in a residential home or at home. People requiring nursing home care may need assistance with some of the following:

- Treatment of pressure sores.
- Management of severe pain through prescribed treatment of medication.
- Assistance with administration of oxygen.

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- Care of urinary catheter, suction, tube feeding.
- Daily monitoring of fluids by a physician.
- Serious deterioration in physical or mental condition.
- Requiring help of two people to mobilise.
- Regular incontinence requiring frequent attention throughout the day.

Source: Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, Nursing Homes. Available at: <https://belfasttrust.hscni.net/service/nursing-homes> (accessed July 2026).

4. What are the relevant DOH care standards for "nursing"?

Under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this information is reasonably accessible to you by other means.

Please refer to the DOH website to access information on the Revised Care Standards for Nursing Homes, May 2026.

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[Revised Nursing Home Standards May 2026.pdf](#)

5. What is "residential"?

Residential homes. These provide accommodation and personal care, such as help with:

- washing
- dressing
- taking medicines
- going to the toilet

Some care homes also offer activities, such as day trips.

Source: NHS England, Care Homes. Available at: <https://www.nhs.uk/social-care-and-support/care-services-equipment-and-care-homes/care-homes/> (accessed July 2026).

6. What are the relevant DOH care standards for "residential"?

Under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this information is reasonably accessible to you by other means.

Please refer to the DOH website to access information on the Residential Care Homes Minimum Standards, Version 1.3

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[Residential Care Home Minimum Standards Version 1.3.pdf](#)

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Some figures have been withheld and replaced with less than five (<5). This is because disclosure of small numbers may risk identifying individuals. The information is therefore exempt under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Personal Information relating to a third party. Its release would contravene the data protection principles set out in the UK GDPR.