

## Care Home Checklist

If you are looking at care homes for yourself or a relative, print a copy of this list to take with you to help you to make the right decision.

- Where is the home?
- Will visitors be able to get there easily?
- Are there transport links nearby?
- Are facilities such as shops, pubs, parks and places of worship within easy reach?
- How accessible is the home?
- Will it be easy for you to enter and leave the building, and move between rooms and floors?
- How good is the wheelchair access?
- Are the rooms a good size?
- Are there any unpleasant smells?
- Do the rooms feel hot and stuffy or cold and draughty?
- Is there a relaxed and friendly atmosphere?
- Will you feel comfortable chatting and socialising in the home's public areas?
- Are chairs arranged in groups or round the edges of the rooms?
- Is there a quiet living room for reading, as well as one with a television?
- Will you have a room to yourself?
- Is there any choice of rooms to accommodate preferences such as sun, shade or quiet?
- Do the rooms have en-suite facilities or basins?
- Will you be able to bring your own possessions such as pictures, plants and furniture?
- Does the home allow pets?

- Will you be able to settle into the home?
  
- Would you prefer a larger or smaller home?

**In conclusion**

Never be afraid to ask “awkward” questions as good homes will welcome the opportunity to be up-front and honest with you, and ideally make at least one visit unannounced.  
 Don't be afraid to take pictures to remind yourself of the facilities and surroundings.

Now let's consider and make notes about the pro's & cons of the home in question.

The pros –

The cons –



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