NEWS story

Sanctuary Supported Living submits application for Ofsted registration

October 2023

A national, not-for-profit organisation, which delivers a wide range of supported housing has submitted its application to register for Ofsted, following the Department of Education's call for new standards of quality, registration, and inspection for providers of supported accommodation for young people.



Sanctuary Supported Living, part of housing association Sanctuary, welcomes the new Ofsted-led regulations which will provide crucial oversight of the supported housing sector by assessing whether accommodation is safe and adequately meeting children's individual needs. Until now, this type of provision has had no independent scrutiny, potentially leaving children at risk in unsafe or unsuitable accommodation.

From 28 October 2023, all providers of supported accommodation will be required to adhere to the new mandatory, national quality standards published by the government.

Sanctuary Supported Living is keen to show that it exemplifies good practice and provides a safe place for young people aged 16+ to gain essential life skills and learn to live independently as they make the transition to adulthood.

The supported housing provider has several services across the country specialising in supporting young people experiencing homelessness, including those who are care leavers or looked after children.

Rachel Polhill, Head of Quality and Compliance said: "The quality of housing, care, and support for young people is very important, and as a responsible provider we've hastened to submit our application to Ofsted. As we wait for our application to progress, we'll be working closely with our Local Service Managers to support them to prepare for registration and inspection.

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"We're looking forward to being a registered provider with 29 Ofsted-registered services across the country - and we're eager to be part of this new chapter in children's social care which will undoubtedly maximise positive outcomes for those who are most in need."

Following Sanctuary Supported Living's application, Ofsted will be assessing their suitability as a provider, as well as the suitability of managers who will be accountable for all elements of service delivery, with full inspections set to take place from April next year.