

Coton Care Limited

Coton Grange

Inspection report

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Ratings

Overall rating for this service	Good •
Is the service safe?	Good
Is the service effective?	Good
Is the service caring?	Good
Is the service responsive?	Good
Is the service well-led?	Good

Summary of findings

Overall summary

What life is like for people using this service:

The property was clean, comfortable, with plenty of room for people to live. Everyone had their own room with en-suite facilities.

People told us they felt safe and happy and the service was their home.

There were safeguarding systems and processes in places that sought to protect people from harm. Staff knew the signs of abuse and what to do if they suspected it. There were sufficient staff in place, all of whom had passed safe recruitment procedures to ensure they were suitable for the role. There were systems in place to monitor people's safety and promote their health and wellbeing, these included risk assessments, risk management analysis tools and care plans. The provider ensured that when things went wrong, incidents and accidents were recorded and lesson were learned.

People needs were assessed in detail before moving to the home so the provider knew whether they could meet the person's needs. Staff were sufficiently skilled and experienced to fulfil their roles, received training and were supported through regular supervision. People were prompted to eat and drink healthily and could choose what foods they wanted to eat. People were supported to have choice in their daily lives and staff supported them in the least restrictive way possible; the policies and systems in the service supported this practice.

People were treated kindly and compassionately by staff. People and their relatives were supported to express their views and make decisions about the care and treatment they received. Staff respected people's privacy and dignity.

People received personalised care, having their support needs and preferences detailed in their care plans. People were supported to lead fulfilled lives through activities of their choice. The provider had a complaints policy and process in place; people and their relatives told us they would feel comfortable raising complaints. When people were at the end of their life, the provider worked with them to meet their wishes and preferences and to live pain free.

People and staff thought highly of the registered manager and that the service was well managed. Staff knew their roles and understood what was expected of them. The registered manager knew their responsibilities in ensuring people received a safe, high quality service. People and staff were engaged in the service and their opinions were sought. There were quality assurance systems in place to assist the provider to monitor and improve its care and treatment of people. The service had built local community links to benefit the lives of people using the service.

At this inspection we found the evidence supported a rating of 'Good' in all areas, and continues to support

a rating of 'Good' overall. More information in 'Detailed Findings' below.

Rating at last inspection: At our last inspection in March 2016 we rated the service as 'Good' overall, we rated Safe as 'Required Improvement'.

About the service: Coton Grange is a residential care home that provides personal care for up to 29 people. At the time of the inspection 26 people lived at the home.

Why we inspected: This was a planned comprehensive inspection that was scheduled to take place in line with Care Quality Commission scheduling guidelines for adult social care services.

Follow up: We will continue to monitor intelligence we receive about the service until we return to visit as per our inspection programme. If any concerning information is received we may inspect sooner.

The five questions we ask about services and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

Is the service safe?	Good •
The service was safe.	
Details are in our Safe findings below.	
Is the service effective?	Good •
The service was effective.	
Details are in our Effective findings below.	
Is the service caring?	Good •
The service was caring.	
Details are in our Caring findings below.	
Is the service responsive?	Good •
The service was responsive.	
Details are in our Responsive findings below.	
Is the service well-led?	Good •
The service was well-led.	
Details are in our Well-led findings below.	



Coton Grange

Detailed findings

Background to this inspection

The inspection: We carried out this inspection under Section 60 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 as part of our regulatory functions. This inspection checked whether the provider is meeting the legal requirements and regulations associated with the Health and Social Care Act 2008, to look at the overall quality of the service, and to provide a rating for the service under the Care Act 2014.

Inspection team: The inspection was carried out by one inspector and an expert by experience. An expert by experience is a person who has personal experience of using or caring for someone who uses this type of service.

Service and service type: Coton Grange is a care home. People in care homes receive accommodation and nursing or personal care. CQC regulates both the premises and the care provided, and both were looked at during this inspection.

The service had a registered manager. A registered manager is a person who has registered with the Care Quality Commission to manage the service. Like registered providers, they are 'registered persons'. Registered persons have legal responsibility for meeting the requirements in the Health and Social Care Act 2008 and associated Regulations about how the service is run.

Notice of inspection: The inspection visit was unannounced.

What we did: We reviewed information we had received about the service since the last inspection. This included details about incidents the provider must notify us about, such as abuse. We sought feedback from the local authority and professionals who work with the service. We assessed the information we require providers to send us annually that gives us key information about the service, what the service does well and improvements they plan to make. We used all this information to plan our inspection.

During the inspection visit, we reviewed three people's care records and other records relating to people's care, such as medicine records, to ensure they were reflective of their needs. We looked at documents relating to the management of the service such as quality audits, people's feedback, and meeting minutes.

During our inspection visit we spoke with five people who lived at the home and two visitors or relatives of people who lived there. We also spoke with the registered manager, the provider, two assistant managers, a care co-ordinator, a quality assurance lead, a member of the housekeeping team and a senior member of care staff.

Some people were not able to tell us what they thought of living at the home; therefore we used different methods to gather experiences of what it was like to live there. For example, we saw how staff supported people throughout the inspection to help us understand peoples' experiences of living at the home. As part of our observations we also used the Short Observational Tool for Inspection (SOFI). SOFI is a way of observing care to help us understand the needs of people who could not talk with us.

Following our inspection visit; We received feedback from two commissioners of services and one health professional.



Is the service safe?

Our findings

Safe – this means people were protected from abuse and avoidable harm

Good: At our last inspection the service was rated as 'Requires Improvement' in Safe, the ordering of medicines required improvement. At this inspection we found, people were safe and protected from avoidable harm. Legal requirements were met.

Using medicines safely

- •We checked people's medicines and their medication administration record (MAR) folders and found that staff were recording and logging people's medicines correctly and in accordance with best practice guidance. Where people required medicines on an 'as required' basis, there were detailed instructions for staff to follow to ensure people were given their medicines consistently and only when they needed them. People told us, "If I was in pain they'd give me a pain killer straight away" and "I've never had it so easy with my medicines. At home I'd forget to take them. They bring them to me here."
- •Senior staff were trained to administer medicines and they were competency checked to ensure their understanding of processes and procedures. We spoke with staff and were confident they knew how to administer medicines and knew what to do if there were administration errors.
- •The provider acted to ensure medicines were stored safely. On the day of our inspection visit the provider was installing an air conditioner unit to the medicines storage room, to ensure medicines were always stored below the recommended limit of 25 degrees centigrade. This meant people were supported to receive their medicines in a safe way.

Risk management

- •Staff knew people well. People told us they felt safe at the home. One person said, "I feel safe because the staff are so good." A relative told us, "Its safe here. The fear has gone (since [Name] came here) I can put my head on the pillow and go to sleep."
- •Staff had developed a good understanding of risks to people's health and wellbeing, and the steps they needed to take to reduce those risks. For example, people had risk mitigation plans on how to move safely, what equipment they needed and how to use equipment. Staff followed these plans.
- •Staff received training in how to respond to behaviours that may place people at risk. Risk mitigation plans were in place for each person as well as behavioural monitoring charts. These identified what might trigger some behaviours, so they could be avoided. Staff were also given detailed information about each person, and what techniques to use to engage and stimulate them, so that risks were minimised. Lessons were learned from reviewing behavioural logs, to see if procedures and instructions to staff could be improved. The home was calm and people appeared content during our visit.
- •The provider and registered manager monitored critical risks to people and risks around the home and premises, to ensure the home was maintained and environmental risks were reduced.

Safeguarding systems and processes

•There were policies and procedures in place for staff to follow keep people from harm. Staff completed safeguarding training and had regular updates to keep their knowledge up to date. They told us they would

have no hesitation in raising concerns with a manager if they suspected abuse. This meant staff knew how to keep people safe from potential harm or abuse.

- •We saw detailed records were kept of safeguarding concerns and alerts and that, where necessary, information was shared with the local authority and the Care Quality Commission (CQC). Previous concerns had been investigated fairly and in a timely manner. This demonstrated the provider acted appropriately when there were safeguarding concerns.
- •There were easy read posters and leaflets located around the home so that people and their relatives knew how to raise concerns with staff. This showed that the provider thought about how to communicate with people about keeping them safe.

Staffing levels

- •The provider had completed robust checks to ensure staff were suitable for their role. These included checking their references, assuring their identities and right to work in the UK, as well as completing checks on their character. This meant the provider recruited employees suitable for working with vulnerable people.
- •People and relatives told us, and we saw, there were a sufficient number of staff at the service to keep people safe and to monitor the communal areas of the home, throughout our visit. We saw a person who required support was attended to immediately. The provider maintained a rota and ensured there were enough staff on shift at all times. This meant people received support in a timely manner and felt they could rely on staff to meet their needs.

Preventing and controlling infection

•There were effective measures in places to ensure that risk of infection was prevented and/or minimised. Staff wore personal protective equipment, such as gloves and aprons, when necessary and understood the principles of infection control. The building was clean and tidy. The service had been awarded a five-star food hygiene rating.

Learning lessons when things go wrong

•Lessons were learnt when things went wrong. There was an accident and incident policy and these events were recorded, investigated and shared with the provider. The provider and management team analysed incidents and shared learning across the organisation with specific information for staff teams being fed back through lines of management. For example, learning from medicines errors following an analysis of what went wrong.



Is the service effective?

Our findings

Effective – this means that people's care, treatment and support achieved good outcomes and promoted a good quality of life, based on best available evidence.

Good: People's outcomes were consistently good, and feedback confirmed this. One person said, "Staff are very good. They are very quick. They are decent people. They work together very well."

Assessing people's needs and choices; delivering care in line with standards, guidance and the law •People's needs continued to be assessed before admission to the home. These assessments included input from people and their family members, were comprehensive and covered people's physical and mental health needs as well as their background. Staff had ample information to provide effective care. One relative commented on how well the staff supported their relation, saying, "The most important thing was when [Name] was admitted she couldn't walk, staff have listened and encouraged her, and she walks with a frame now."

•People's needs were regularly reviewed to ensure the home continued to be right for them.

Staff skills, knowledge and experience

- •People told us the staff knew their roles. One person said, "They [staff] know what they are doing." Staff received an induction upon starting work at Coton Grange. Inductions included meeting people, learning about the role, introduction to moving and handling, safeguarding adults, confidentiality, dementia care and positive behaviour support. This meant staff knew how to provide effective care and support to people.
 •Staff received relevant, ongoing training for their roles and the provider monitored this to ensure employees skills were kept up to date. There was an on-site training room which could be used for practical training, and staff were provided access to a computer to complete online training packages. There were development opportunities in place for staff; some staff had completed national vocational qualifications in health and social care. This demonstrated staff were given the right guidance and knowledge to support people.
- •Staff received regular meetings with their manager, and other staff, in line with the provider's policies. Staff told us they felt supported by the provider and registered manager, with a registered manager who was approachable. The registered manager operated an 'open door' policy which meant staff could speak to them whenever they needed to. Additional management support was available to support staff each day in the form of an assistant manager, senior care staff, and care co-ordinators. In addition, the provider recognised the valuable contribution staff made to the quality of care people received. They recognised staff's contribution by their thanks, sharing people's compliments, and also awarding staff with a 'Star' award each month for nominated staff members.

Supporting people to eat and drink enough with choice in a balanced diet

•People were supported to eat and drink enough and maintain a balanced diet. During mealtimes people were offered a choice of different meals, through a menu and a visual choice. Those that required it were given assistance by staff to eat. Kitchen staff kept a record of each person's dietary requirements and where people required a specialist diet, for example, when a person required foods of a softer texture due to

swallowing difficulties, these were prepared separately. People told us they enjoyed the food on offer. Family members were asked to respect people's time to eat their meal in a calm and unhurried way, and therefore the provider encouraged protected visiting times, to reduce the number of visitors at mealtimes. This encouraged people to take time to eat.

- •Lunchtimes were a social experience for people, tables were laid with tablecloths, cutlery, table mats, napkins and condiments. Music was playing in the background. People were usually offered a choice of where they sat and who they sat with.
- •The service promoted healthy eating and monitored people's weight where appropriate. Staff coordinated care with nutritionists and dieticians to ensure people's individual needs were met. One relative commented, "Mum was losing weight because someone was eating her lunch, they [staff] have now moved them to sit apart during mealtimes, this is to ensure she eats enough." This ensured that people received the right support to manage their health and wellbeing.

Staff providing consistent, effective, timely care

- •People told us they were supported with their healthcare and saw the doctor and other health professionals such as opticians, district nurses and dentists regularly. One person confirmed, health professionals visited the home to offer people on site support. They mentioned the doctor had been called to visit them when they had a cough. A relative told us, "When [Name] had a possible infection the doctor came out to see them, and prescribed anti-biotics." Care records provided an overview of the health care appointments people attended, and showed where professionals had made any recommended or actions for staff to follow.
- •Staff communicated effectively with other staff. There were systems in place, such as daily notes on care records, handover meetings and through the electronic records system which contained people's primary care records, to share information among staff. This meant that staff knew what was happening in people's lives and knew when changes had occurred that might affect how their needs were met.

Ensuring consent to care and treatment in line with law and guidance

- •The Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA) provides a legal framework for making particular decisions on behalf of people who may lack the mental capacity to do so for themselves. The Act requires that, as far as possible, people make their own decisions and are helped to do so when needed. When they lack mental capacity to take particular decisions, any made on their behalf must be in their best interests and as least restrictive as possible.
- •People can only be deprived of their liberty so that they can receive care and treatment when this is in their best interests and legally authorised under the MCA. The authorisation procedures for this in care homes and hospitals are called the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS). We checked whether the service was working within the principles of the MCA and whether any conditions on authorisations to deprive a person of their liberty were being met and found the service to be compliant. There were DoLS in place for people using the service to keep them safe from harm. The service kept record of the authorisations and applied for them appropriately.
- •Staff had received training and understood their responsibilities around consent and mental capacity. We witnessed staff seeking consent from people as they went about their daily duties. People's capacity had been assessed where they needed assistance to make decisions. These highlighted what people understood and their ability to retain information.
- •Where people had assigned advocates or family members involved in making decisions about their care, the provider kept records of these so that appropriate people could be consulted when decisions needed to be made in people's best interests.

Adapting service, design, decoration to meet people's needs

•The premises and environment met the needs of people who used the service, because corridors and

doorways were wide, and people could use their wheelchairs and mobility aids to access areas around the home. There were signs around the home in pictures and words to help people find their way around.

•People were involved in decisions about the premises and environment; they could decorate their room how they liked. The provider concentrated on the latest best practice guidelines for people with cognitive impairments, such as dementia, in developing new areas of the home. These included reminiscence areas, and places for people to meet. People were asked for their opinion of these new initiatives and how new areas should be decorated. This encouraged people to feel comfortable and take ownership of where they lived.



Is the service caring?

Our findings

Caring – this means that the service involved people and treated them with compassion, kindness, dignity and respect.

Good: People were supported and treated with dignity and respect; and involved as partners in their care.

Ensuring people are well treated and supported

- •We observed staff being kind to people. One person said, "I don't know how I would have done it without the support of the girls [staff]." Another person commented, "They are so pleasant. You feel you can go and talk to them about anything"
- •The provider assigned each person with a member of staff who got to know them well, called a keyworker. Keyworkers made sure care records were up to date and reflected people needs.
- •Staff communicated with people in a warm and friendly manner, and gave people the time they required to answer. Staff considered people's feelings, and regularly checked if people were okay. For example, we saw staff check with several people if they needed a snack, and drink or if they were in pain.
- •Staff responded quickly when people needed assistance, and they provided emotional support to people if they became anxious or needed reassurance. This showed that people were supported in a compassionate manner.
- •People living in the home could not always use verbal communication to express their wishes but staff were skilled in looking out for other signs and body language which people used to communicate their preferences. Care files had good communication profiles which detailed how each person communicated which meant that staff had a consistent understanding of how they should speak with people.
- •People's wellbeing was considered. The service used various systems to monitor people's wellbeing. Records indicated that where people's wellbeing appeared to decrease the service sought to provide them with more support. People were encouraged to maintain relationships with family members and friends, to provide support and companionship.

Supporting people to express their views and be involved in making decisions about their care

- •People and their relatives were involved in making decisions about care and support. Care plans were regularly reviewed and changes were made when required. One relative told us, "They hold regular reviews of people's care packages. In addition, they [the staff] always talk to me outside of reviews and keep us updated."
- Where people needed assistance to take part in discussions, easy read, large print and picture documents and cards were available to assist people. This meant people were involved, as much as possible, in making decisions about their care and treatment.
- •Resident meetings were held regularly. Minutes from those meetings showed a range of information was discussed, which included planned changes around the home, activities plans and food choices. This showed people were involved with decisions about how to spend their time and supported to express their views.

Respecting and promoting people's privacy, dignity and independence

- •People had their own space and told us their privacy was respected. Staff could describe how they protected people's privacy during personal care, by covering them, and people confirmed staff respected their dignity during personal care. One person said, "They [staff] do it (personal care) really nicely. I like the way they do it here"
- •Where some people wanted to share their lives with their spouse or partner, the provider made sure people could stay together. One couple at the home stayed in a shared room, and the provider had made a lounge area for the couple, where they could spend private time together.
- •The provider followed data protection law. The information we saw about people was either kept in lockable cabinets in locked offices or on password protected computers. This meant people's private information was kept securely.
- •Activities were offered that sought to promote people's independence as much as possible. For example, people were encouraged to take part in exercise to maintain their mobility. Staff encouraged people to sit where they liked, and helped them make everyday decisions to maintain their choices and independence. People could spend time how they wanted to.
- •People were supported to receive care and support from others. When and where people needed support in their lives that was beyond the remit of the provider, the provider advocated for people and sought that support. For example, people were supported to meet with legal, clinical and welfare professionals. This meant that people's human rights were upheld.



Is the service responsive?

Our findings

Responsive – this means that services met people's needs.

Good: People's needs were met through good organisation and delivery.

Personalised care

- •Each person using the service had detailed care plans that identified and recorded their needs and highlighted any risks. Care plans covered topics from physical and health needs, activity engagement, preferences and risk assessments. There were also plans for when situations arose such as safeguarding and positive behaviour support. Care plans were regularly audited, checked, and kept up to date regarding any changes in people's care needs.
- •Staff recognised the importance of care plans and followed people's care plans. Staff updated records of the care people received daily. People's preferences had been gathered and support was delivered in line with their wishes. People's care plans provided staff with information about how people liked their care to be delivered. For example, if people wanted to receive care from male or female care staff. Staff and management had a good knowledge of people's personalities, and personal history, and could tell us the specific things that certain people enjoyed doing.
- People's personal beliefs and backgrounds were respected by staff. We saw that people who practiced religion, were supported to do so. People's cultural choices were discussed with them, so that staff knew how to support them. People told us staff listened to them, and responded. One person commented, "The staff are golden, they will do anything, absolutely anything for you."
- People were encouraged to take part in organised group activities and events around the home. Activities and events were advertised and included exercise sessions, sing-a-longs, games, seasonal and religious events, and trips out and about. People were supported to attend cultural and religious events such as church services. One person said, "I can do something different every day so I am not bored."

 Some people were also supported with activities that were personal to them. For example, one person told us how much they enjoyed watching birds. The provider had made sure they could see a bird table from their window, where wild bird feed was left out for them. The person told us they regularly sat and watched the birds.

We saw people were engaged activities and games on the day of our visit. People were encouraged to join in. In addition to activities the home also had regular visitors come in to see people, such as local school groups, hairdressers, volunteers with animals and the library service. The provider used a computer tablet at the home so that each person could read the news, play a game, or use the internet each day. This meant people were enabled to live rich and meaningful lives.

•Organisations that provide NHS or adult social care must follow the Accessible Information Standard (AIS) by law. The aim of the AIS is to make sure that people that receive care have information made available to them that they can access and understand. Where people had specific disabilities that affected their communication, the provider used a range of techniques to communicate with people effectively. This included hearing aids, visual aids, pictures and large print documents. The provider also met people's cultural needs, for example, some documents were produced in different languages and staff spoke several different languages to support people where English was not their first language.

End of Life care and support

•In a circumstance where people needed end of life support, the provider had policies and procedures in place to meet people's health needs and their wishes. People's choices for their end of life were recorded in their care plan, when they wished to share this with the provider. One relative had commented about the care their relation received at the end of their life on the provider's internet feedback page, saying, "I could not have wished for better care for [Name] in the last few months of their life. The support and care was excellent."

Improving care quality in response to complaints or concerns

- •People were supported to raise concerns. People and their relatives told us they were confident in raising concerns with the registered manager and staff if they had any issues. One relative said, "If I had a complaint I would speak to a manager."
- •The provider had a complaints, compliments and suggestions policy staff were aware of. It had been provided to people in an easy to read format and was displayed around the home. The information told them how to keep themselves safe and how to report any issues of concern or raise a complaint.
- •The provider had a complaint logging system, showing how many complaints they received, and the provider tracked complaint information to see whether improvements to their services could be made. This demonstrated that people's concerns would be listened to if raised.



Is the service well-led?

Our findings

Well-Led – this means that service leadership, management and governance assured high-quality, personcentred care; supported learning and innovation; and promoted an open, fair culture

Good: The service was consistently managed and well-led. Leaders and the culture they created promoted high-quality, person-centred care.

Plan to promote person-centred, high-quality care and good outcomes for people

- •People and staff told us they thought highly of the registered manager. They described them as being approachable. One person said, "The door is always open." Another relative said, "The managers talk to us if there is a problem."
- •The registered manager and provider conveyed their commitment to providing person centred care in discussions with us, and it was evident from documentation and systems in place, people were at the centre of the work the service provided. A relative commented on how the staff put people first, "When we arrived [manager] was at the door to greet us. She was a familiar face as she had been at the previous home, which made us feel welcome."

Managers and staff are clear about their roles, and understand quality performance, risks and regulatory requirements

- •The service was well run. Comments from people included; "The managers are really good. The senior care manager has got people involved in providing feedback."
- •Staff said they were clear in their roles and understood what the provider expected from them as these expectations were outlined at induction, training and through the supervision and management. This meant people received good treatment from staff who knew what they were doing.
- •The registered manager understood their role and could share information with us about the quality performance of the service, the risks people and the service faced and knew their responsibilities regarding regulatory requirements. This demonstrated the manager was clear about their role and in being so, provided people with a better service.
- •The latest CQC inspection report rating was on display. The display of the rating is a legal requirement, to inform people, those seeking information about the service and visitors of our judgments.

Engaging and involving people using the service, the public and staff

- •People, their relatives, staff and visiting professionals were encouraged to provide feedback on their experiences of Coton Grange. The provider sought people's views through a range of techniques including comments forms, suggestion boxes, internet sites, regular reviews and surveys. We saw the most recent survey which showed people were happy with their lives at the home. However, some people had suggested they would like more activities. The provider had responded by introducing monthly discussions with people about what activities they would like to see at the home. Plans were in place to increase the range of activities through the provider's improvement plan.
- •Resident meetings were held and discussed topics such as what was planned at the home, and what changes people would like to see. Around the home the provider showed people how they had taken on board their feedback, and made changes, through displays and notices.

•Staff meetings were held each month to gain staff feedback and keep staff up to date with any changes, such as policies and procedures. Staff had an opportunity under 'Any other Business' to raise items for discussion. Staff told us they felt they would be listened to by the registered manager and the provider. This showed staff were involved in shaping and understanding the service.

Working in partnership with others

- •The provider and registered manager worked with others, such as health professionals and local organisations to support people. For example, the registered manager gained advice and support in how the home could improve through their local authority, training organisations, local charities that supported people with advocacy services, and experts in dementia care.
- •The registered manager attended regular leadership and management meetings with other registered managers and the provider to share learning from Coton Grange and the provider's other homes. The service had links with the wider community, such as local school groups. These partnerships demonstrated that the provider sought best practice and was innovative in enhancing and developing the service to ensure people received high quality care and support.

Continuous learning and improving care

- •The provider completed various audits to assess the quality of care and support in place using their internal auditing process. This internal audit process meant the registered manager was required to conduct regular audits, and report their findings to the provider. The results of audits, and all quality assurance checks were shared with the provider, including when actions had been completed, and what lessons were learnt. This meant the provider could share learning between their homes, so they could learn from each other. Regular audit schedules included checks on medicines, infection control, care and care records.
- •Recent improvements made at the home included the introduction of electronic care records, and the introduction of care co-ordinators to regularly check electronic records were kept up to date and reflected people's current needs.
- •The provider planned to introduce further audits at their service, and had employed a dedicated quality assurance manager. Planned improvements included, every month each person was to have a personalised audit conducted on their care, which was called 'Resident of the day'. Staff would speak with the person, about their experiences of the home during the previous month, including whether thy liked the food on offer and whether they enjoyed the activities.