



Environment Matters in Dementia Care Homes

The 'LOOK' Checklist: Thirty Indicators

		Yes	No	Partly
1	Lounge / Diner conversion			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lounges are converted into 'lounge/diners' to cease 'herding' people into large dining rooms Lounges enable domestic, kitchen and sensory activity re preparation for mealtimes Lounges are Matched or divided to specific groups of people living with a dementia with similar needs 			
2	Filling up of hallways			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hallways become areas of occupation and activity encouraging spontaneity in people to occupy themselves Hallways are full of opportunities to touch, fiddle, sort, carry, move items around Hallways are 'staged', themed and matched to people's lives and appropriate to different points of dementia 			
3	Active life history use			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence exists in lounges and hallways of individual people's lives, achievements and memories People are invited to have personal possessions in communal areas to prevent communal areas being anonymous With permission and respect for confidentiality people's life histories are framed, readable and up in the home by bedroom doors to focus every one of the link between who people were and are now 			



		Yes	No	Partly
7	Bathrooms are turned into warm friendly sensory engaging places of comfort			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glare is reduced, lighting levels increased with no confusing taps etc. and sanitary items distinct from floor and wall colours • The room is softened with attention to walls preventing a cold empty magnolia 'look' by adding pictures, murals, themes • Staff attention is focused on reducing the impact of shiny steel equipment and introducing sensory and comfort experiences 			
8	Bedrooms turned into mini living rooms			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bedrooms are not appearing just as functional sleeping spaces and areas for personal care but also as an engaging room to live in • The persons identity and past, interests and belongings should shine out and make a clear statement of a full life • Staff should see peoples bedrooms as private personal areas which offer opportunity to meaningfully occupy people rather than just places to sit, watch TV and sleep 			