PLANNING STATEMENT FOR 24 THORNLEIGH ROAD, CROSSLAND MOOR, HUDDERSFILED, HD4 5PY

Aims –

The overall aim of our service be to prepare children to develop communicatively, socially, and emotionally so that they can flourish in society and make informed moral decisions. We aim to provide care of the highest quality which allows young people to feel safe and secure. The residential children's home, suitable for 7 – 17-year-olds, sets its aims and objectives with reference to government legislation and guidance and other relevant documents and guidance. The length of stay will be determined by the outcomes of the care provided which may result in the child returning to foster care or family to a child leaving care. Consequently it is difficult to estimate the average length of care provided to child residing at the home).

The Care home provides children with a positive home environment that creates security and has clear boundaries, and structures whilst encouraging growth and a belief in themselves to help them achieve their full potential and prosper in the outside world. We aim to prepare children to make that important transition from childhood to adulthood.

- We listen to children and young people and encourage them to be involved in all aspects of their care planning.

- We respect and promote people's differences, challenge oppressive and discriminatory attitudes and behaviour and actively encourage children and young people to develop the ability to live and positively participate in a diverse changing society.

- We will ensure that each child and young person has a robust education programme which supports their individual needs so they are encouraged and supported to reach their fullest potential.

- We will ensure that each child or young person has a care plan that they are completely involved in the completion of. The plan will have clear manageable targets, reflective of the local authority care plan provided.

- The Management Team will actively support staff team members in their day-to-day tasks through a robust ongoing training programme, supervision, and appraisal. The team will receive the best training opportunities possible in order for them to provide the best care opportunities possible.

- We will ensure that each young person's well-being and health needs are properly met and monitored.

- We will ensure children and young people's medical support and health care needs are effectively provided for in conjunction with the relevant health professionals.

- We will encourage children and young people to engage in appropriate community-based activities, aimlessly wandering the streets in search of trouble will not be an option at Inspire House.

- We have achieved a balance of care and control that enables our children and young people to grow and develop as individuals due to clearly defined structure and boundaries allowing us to be-able to promote desired, acceptable behaviour through the setting of individual incentives, goals, targets and sometimes all is required is a simple “well done”.

The 9 Quality Standards that our home will adhere to:

- The quality and purpose of care standard
- The children’s wishes and feelings standard
- The education standard
- The enjoyment and achievement standard
- The health and well-being standard
- The positive relationships standard
- The protection of children standard
- The leadership and management standard
- The care planning standard

Who would we be supporting at Inspire House?

The residential children’s home will be **two** child placement home which accommodates children placed by Local Authorities of all genders, races, and religions between the ages of 7 and 17 years old, with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties. The home will care for and help children to understand and overcome the impact of suffered trauma and disrupted childhoods. We promote diversity and will accommodate all cultures and backgrounds by providing bespoke care packages based on the need of the child.

Staffing

The team at Inspire House will comprise of the following:

1 X Registered Manager

6 - 7 X Full Time Residential Childcare Workers (including Team Leaders)

The Organisational Structure of Inspire House

The home will be open every day and operates on a 24-hour rota with a minimum of 2 staff on duty. The home manager will also be based at the home during the hours of 9 am – 5 pm Monday to Friday, however, she may work away from the home for private meetings/ work, in this instance, we aim to ensure the deputy or senior member of staff will be at the home.

Staff work a shift system whereby a minimum of two staff sleep each night. The shift starts at 10:00 am. The late or evening shift ends at 23:00, with staff retiring to staff’s bedrooms (but are accessible if required during the night). Shifts then begin again at 7:00 am when staff give the in-coming shift members at 10 am. This rota pattern is currently being used in line with the European Union Working Time Directives.

Rotas are available to staff at least one month in advance. Each shift has a nominated shift leader, indicated on the rota. Arrangements are always made i.e., evenings, weekends and holiday periods for a senior member of staff to be available on call in case of an emergency.

Parking – Arrangements

There is sufficient parking for 2 cars on site. Staff will be encouraged to use public transport to travel to and from work. Despite this encouragement there will be sufficient parking on site to accommodate staff and avoid any use of on street parking by our staff.

Fire and Safety Precautions

The care will meet certain standards identified in the fire risk assessment which is updated annually. This will include the installation of a fire alarm system as well as installation of fire doors and fire extinguishers. The registered manager will take responsibility for the effective operation of the home's fire policy and procedures and the firefighting equipment is inspected weekly by staff and 6-12 monthly by external agencies. All young people are aware of evacuation procedures and the fire policy is explained to them prior to or on admission. This information is also made available in the Children's guide.

The Home Fire Policy will include FIRE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:

- The staff test the fire alarm system weekly and any faults are reported and recorded. Staff test all fire call points alternatively and all door closures weekly.
- All firefighting equipment is checked weekly by staff and recorded. Named contractors also check all equipment regularly. Where fire extinguishers are kept behind closed doors, this is risk assessed.
- Fire evacuation drills are undertaken monthly, signed off by a manager and accurately recorded. All children upon admission are encouraged to particulate in a practice drill as soon as possible, as well as all new staff members.
- All permanent staff are informed as part of the induction of relevant fire safety procedures and receive training on fire marshall training and use of fire extinguishing equipment.
- All visitors are briefed on the fire evacuation points, evacuation procedure and assembly point upon entry. This is will also be included in the Childrens Guide.

In addition, there will be buzzers on the exit doors to make staff aware of anyone leaving the home during the night. All doors will have Thumb turn lock so that children will be able to lock their doors for privacy. Also the external doors will be fitted with thumb turn locks to allow residents to leave quickly in the event of an emergency such as a fire.

Professional Visitors

The home will have a number of professional visitors to the home. This will include regular visits from the childrens social worker (usually between 1 or 2 times a month). In addition OFSTED inspectors may visit the home to inspect the provision which is likely to be on an annual basis. In addition, the provision may receive visits from tutors who will usually take the young person to an alternative location such as a local library to provide education. The aim of the care aim is to ensure that young person is provided with a place at a local school however if there is a need for tuition whilst a place in a local school is accessed then a tutor may be required to fulfil the need for educational provision. There may also be occasional visit

from a counsellor or therapist to provide counselling or therapy where it is felt that this will be of benefit to the young person.

In summary there will be occasional visits to the home by professionals, however this will be no more than the likely visitors to a typical family home.