Children's Home Management Plan 373 Meltham Road, Huddersfield, HD4 7EL

1. How many children will be accommodated?
We are an existing Ofsted-registered children's home provider. This new home will accommodate just one young person. This allows us to deliver focused, personalised care in a calm and safe environment that fits in well with the surrounding residential area.

2. What is the staff-to-child ratio?
The service operates on a 2:1 staffing ratio, meaning two staff members will support the young person. This high level of supervision ensures safety, consistent emotional support, and proactive management of any emerging risks. At any given time, there will typically be two staff and a manager on-site during office hours. The Responsible Individual may also attend occasionally.

3. What is the likely level of need of the children accommodated?
The children placed at the home will typically have emotional and behavioural difficulties (EBD), and some may present with more complex needs. These could include challenges around attachment, trauma, or mild learning difficulties. Staff are trained in therapeutic care and take a trauma-informed approach using the PACE model (Playfulness, Acceptance, Curiosity, Empathy). All staff have comprehensive mandatory induction training.

4. What is the shift pattern for staff?
Our staff will work on a 1 day on, 2 days off rolling shift pattern.
The Manager will be start work at 9am and finish at 5PM.
The two support staff start at 10am and finish at 10am the next morning.
Rotas are planned at least three months in advance to ensure stability and consistency for the children. This shift system ensures there are always two staff present in the home alongside the manager during working hours, maintaining safety and support at all times. The comings and goings will be no different to a normal family home.

5. What support officers are likely to visit the property?

OFSTED are likely visit once per year, Regulation 44 visitor once a month. Usually the young persons social worker would visit them once every four to six weeks.
These visits are usually coordinated in advance to minimise disruption and maintain a calm, consistent home environment.

6. How are visits scheduled, and are meetings held at the home?
Visits are usually pre-arranged, and meetings involving professionals (e.g., case reviews, planning meetings) are usually held virtually via Microsoft Teams. However, some reviews may take place on-site if agreed with the placing authority. Limiting on-site meetings helps maintain the domestic feel of the home and reduces traffic or parking impact on the neighbourhood.

7. What education will be provided if a child cannot attend mainstream school?
Most children will attend mainstream or SEND schools. Where this is not suitable, we work with the local authority to arrange home tutoring. This is discussed at the point of placement and regularly reviewed through the child's Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP). On-site education would be managed in a quiet, structured manner with minimal impact on the community.

8. Is therapeutic care offered on site?
We do not provide therapy on-site. However, if a child requires therapeutic input, referrals will be made to external providers via their social worker. Staff are trained to deliver therapeutic care in daily interactions using the PACE approach, which promotes emotional regulation and safe, trusting relationships.

G. Do case reviews take place on or off-site?
The majority of case reviews take place via Teams, which helps reduce traffic and parking impact in the area. In some cases, and with agreement from the local authority, a review may be held in the home if it's in the child's best interest, although this is rare.

10. Can friends and relatives visit the children?
Yes, but only when it is part of the care plan and approved by the social worker. All visits are arranged in advance, there are no unscheduled or unapproved visits. This maintains the safety and emotional stability of the child and ensures that the home operates in a planned, calm manner.

11. Will the property be Ofsted registered?
Yes, the home will be Ofsted registered, and we operate in full compliance with the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 and Quality Standards.

12. Are children ever left alone at the property?
No, the young person will never be left unsupervised. Our 2:1 staffing model ensures that the young person is always supported by staff, unless an agreed plan allows for short periods of independence (e.g., free time), in which case clear boundaries and risk assessments are in place.

13. Under what circumstances are children allowed to leave the property?
Children may leave the property for school, activities, or community access with staff if this is part of their care plan and agreed by the placing authority. When free time is agreed, a thorough risk assessment is completed, and boundaries (including curfew) are clearly communicated.

14. Would staff be informed if a child left the property?
Yes. Due to the 2:1 staffing ratio staff would always be aware if the young person left the property. If a young person was to leave without agreement, staff would respond immediately in line with our Missing from Care protocol.

15. Is there a curfew?
Most of our young people do not have free time due to their individual needs. Where free time is agreed, a return time is always set (typically no later than 8pm to support evening routines). This supports a structured environment that promotes emotional security.

16. What happens if a child breaches curfew?
If a child fails to return at the agreed time, staff will first attempt to contact them and then begin searching locally. The Missing from Care protocol is followed promptly, including informing the police and social worker. This ensures swift action is taken while minimising community disruption.

17. What security provisions are in place?
The home is fitted with 5 lever locks on external doors and window restrictors are fitted to enhance security.

18. Is CCTV installed?
NO, CCTV is not installed. We want the home to be like any other family home. We have 2:1 staffing at all times.

19. How can local residents raise concerns?
We are committed to being a good neighbour and maintaining open communication with the community. The local residents will be given the managers contact details and any concerns dealt with promptly. We are a professional existing provider and have managed to maintain excellent relations with neighbours.