

Management Plan for Harmony House

Children's Residential Home

How many children would be accommodated?

The proposal is to accommodate up to 4 young people. This will be done incrementally, 1 at a time with careful consideration taken to the matching of other young people in the home to ensure smooth transitions, creating positive relationships and outcomes.

What is the ratio of staff to children that is required, i.e. delivery model?

We will have a staffing ratio of 1 member of staff per child.

What is the likely level of need of the children accommodated, i.e. is there a focus on complex needs?

The home would provide a nurturing home for up to 4 children, aged between 7 to 18 who have been displaced from their family or have been a victim of some type of Trauma.

The home aims to provide a caring approach with a high level of individualised care. We aim to provide young people with a sense of belonging and security and to enable the development of healthy relationships, feeling valued, and a positive transition into adulthood.

We aim to provide an environment that reflects as realistically as possible, that of a genuine and nurturing family home environment, with the consistency of care, boundaries, and support associated. Some of our young people will have experienced several placement and relationship breakdowns, which have further entrenched the disadvantage they have experienced. We aim to provide a home in which children and young people feel secure and valued.

We will work with our young people to help them feel supported to make positive choices and therefore access services that will address their social, educational, and cultural needs. Young people are actively encouraged to understand their behaviour and the impact it has on others and themselves, and the consequences of their actions in the immediate and longer term. Through emotional intelligence and effective communication, everyone can be heard, safely.

What is the likely shift pattern of staff, i.e. how many staff (management and care staff) would likely be at the premises at any one time and when would shift changes occur?

The comings and goings, whether by car or other means, are similar to a typical family dwelling. The home manager would arrive each weekday in the morning and leave each evening. In terms of the other staff on the premises, the two overnight staff would work on 48-hour shifts with only one change of staff each day around 9.30 am. A third daily carer will arrive each day around 8.30, working until 8 pm.

What support officers would be likely to visit the property?

In addition to OFSTED's one visit per year, there will be visits by local social services circa every four to six weeks and one Regulation 44 each month. Usually, each child's social worker would visit them individually but if they are from the same local authority one of the social workers may visit more than one child on the same visit.

How would visits be scheduled and would staff/support-worker meetings take place at the property?

To control excessive visitors to the premises, online and structured agenda-based meetings are held. Visits from Family members, social workers and senior management are all preplanned in advance to keep people movement to a minimum.

If residents are unable to participate in full-time, mainstream education, what educational support would be offered on-site?

With regards to schooling, it is often the case that when young people come into care, they have missed an extensive proportion of their education or are affected in a way that they could not work effectively in a large classroom environment. Given this, they could be tutored from home initially. This is all achieved online without any tutors having to come to the house. They may then progress to a specialist unit (smaller

class sizes) then hopefully onto mainstream. In cases where children may have a home tutor, this is no different from an ordinary family who choose to have their children educated at home.

Would therapeutic care be offered on site?

Therapy is offered. No impact in regard to additional facilities as this will be accommodated in existing facilities or online.

Would case reviews take place on or off site?

Visits from social workers and senior management are all pre-planned in advance to keep people movement to a minimum. The case reviews may take place on site, however, not all attendees will be based at the premises. Where possible we will use video meetings.

Are friends and relatives of residents able to visit at any time?

Visits by family members and friends are carefully managed in advance, subject to child's individual care plan. These visits are no more frequent than those to a typical family by friends or relatives.

Will the property be OFSTED registered?

Yes

Are children ever left alone at the property?

No. There will always be a minimum of one staff member supporting a young person in the home

Under what circumstances are children allowed to leave the property?

Under the supervision of staff.

Would staff members be informed/aware if a child left the property?

As per a regular dwelling, we will have a home alarm system to notify us of any access openings during the night along with full staffing supervision during the day.

Is there a curfew?

Not applicable as young people go out with staff support

What would happen in the event of a breach of curfew?

Missing person protocol followed. We would proactively search for any young person that was missing whilst working with the relevant authority and take all appropriate measures to return them home safe as swiftly as possible

What security provisions are proposed, e.g. security and access controls on doors?

House alarm and gate entrance/exit access control.

Would CCTV be installed?

Yes on the exterior of the property only

How would local residents know how to raise a concern in the event of an issue?

Good neighbour policy followed which requires the registered manager to introduce themselves to the neighbours and provide them with their contact details. We will work collaboratively with the neighbours to ensure a positive relationship.