

Management Plan for Proposed Children's Home

1. Numbers of Children, Age Range, and Average Length of Stay

Number of Children: The home will be a three-child placement.

Age Range: We will care for children of all genders between the ages of 7 and 17.

Average Length of Stay: The length of stay is determined by the outcomes of the care provided (e.g., return to family, move to foster care, or transition to adulthood). Consequently, it is difficult to provide a specific average length of stay.

2. Number of Staff and Shift Patterns

Number of Staff: The team will consist of:

1 x Registered Manager (full-time, 40 hours per week).

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

Shift Pattern: The home operates 24/7. There will always be two staff members on duty to care for the three children.

Staff work a 48-hour shift pattern.

Shifts begin at 10:00 am and end at 10:00 am two days later.

The evening waking shift ends at 11:00 pm, after which staff sleep in dedicated rooms on-site.

The morning shift resumes at 7:00 am.

Rotas are prepared at least one month in advance.

3. Details of Existing and Parking Arrangements

The property's driveway can accommodate 2-3 cars.

Staff are actively encouraged to use public transport due to strong links to the town centre.

When staff do park, they will be instructed to park respectfully and considerately to avoid any inconvenience to neighbours. The area has ample on-street parking capacity.

4. Security and Specialist Features

The building will operate as a home environment, not a secure unit.

Lockable Doors: Bedroom and office doors will be lockable for safeguarding, security, and privacy reasons, in line with standard care home regulations.

Alarms: The property will be fitted with standard domestic smoke and heat alarms to comply with fire safety regulations. There are no plans for specialist security alarms or door buzzers beyond a standard domestic doorbell.

5. Other Professional Visitors

Professional visits will be minimal and managed to minimise impact. Expected visitors include:

Social Workers: 1-2 visits per month.

Ofsted Inspectors: Annual inspection.

Tutors/Teachers: Education will primarily be provided off-site at local schools to support the child's social development. Occasional tutor visits may occur.

Therapists/Counsellors: Occasional sessions may be held at the home.

Review Meetings: These are typically held online (e.g., via Teams or Zoom), significantly reducing visitor numbers.

Family Visits: These are rare and would be infrequent (e.g., no more than once a month), often taking place in neutral locations as directed by the child's social worker