

Criteria for Admission to and Exit from 4, Hillside Road, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire.

Provision

4 Hillside, Leighton Buzzard is a Registered Children's Home for 5 young people with severe learning disabilities and other complex needs. These additional needs may include autistic spectrum disorder, communication difficulties and challenging behaviour.

4, Hillside Road is a community-based Children's Home and education for the young people may be accessed in a variety of ways, including:

- Full time access to MacIntyre School, Wingrave – either within an existing class base or via bespoke community-based programmes.
- Access to the MacIntyre No Limits education programme
- Access to local college.

Individuals are supported as appropriate, with the Children's Home providing:

- Broad and balanced activities that meet the needs of the young people enabling them to progress in independence skills
- Appropriate staffing ratios.
- Multi-agency approach with access to a range of therapies – speech and language therapy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, clinical psychology and psychiatry, music therapy - according to individual needs
- Augmentative and Alternative Communication Systems (AAC) and interventions e.g. Signalong, symbols, PECS, Go-Talk, ICT enabling devices
- Effective support to use person centred communication systems enabling young people to develop skills to communicate emotional and physical needs and wants.
- Specialist support e.g. staff trained in moving and handling techniques and the use of specialist equipment
- Support for the medical needs of students who may require interventions, such as the administration of medication for conditions such as epilepsy.

- Adopting a variety of person-centred led, humanistic positive approaches to manage and support a young person with their behaviour.

Entry Criteria

The young person must transition from MacIntyre-Wingrave or another residential setting where the young person is established (no young people will be considered directly from home). This enables us to understand the support needs of a young person who will be residing within a residential setting, their relationship with staff and peers.

The young person's level of autism/ complex behaviour does not impinge on other young people's ability to have free access to the house/garden etc. The young person's level of challenge must not pose significant risk to themselves or others.

Assessment will pay particular attention to the following criteria. The young person must be able to:

- Make transitions between activities and environments with minimal support.
- Share environments with other vulnerable young people with complex needs without causing them distress or anxiety.
- Live in a community setting with some additional support without disturbing the local community through either noise or disruptive behaviours.
- Communicate some preferences and develop decision making skills with some support.
- Develop life skills and benefit from engaging in work-based learning as appropriate.
- Benefit from a gradual transition prior to moving into adult services.

Procedure for Placement

Referrals to Hillside will be considered by the transition panel. This panel may consist of (depending on requirements) Transition Coordinator, Registered Manager of Hillside Road, Principal, Deputy Principal-Residential and Therapies, Deputy Principal-Education and Clinical Psychologist.

After receiving the referral MacIntyre will respond directly to the Local Authority.

Parental enquiries are welcomed but the Children's Home will require a referral from the Local Authority before assessment can progress.

Exit Criteria

The entry/exit criteria in this document will be considered at each statutory or interim review of the placement.

A young person will be considered for placement in an alternative specialist provision when one or more of the following factors are evident:

- The young person's needs have changed to the extent that the provision is no longer able to meet their needs
- There is evidence from professionals across the agencies involved that the young person will benefit from a placement in a different setting.
- A young person will be considered not suitable for placement if there has been deterioration in their physical or mental health to the extent that they are required to be in a full-time health based environment.
- A young person is no longer able to share the environment with others with complex needs and the situation seriously compromises the safety of other young people or staff.

Review

The entry/exit criteria will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Next review January 2017