



# FAIRFIELD HOUSE

part of the SENAD Group

## Statement of Purpose

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A Guide for Parents, Carers and Professionals about the Residential Care at Fairfield House.

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## Welcome to Fairfield House (part of the West Midlands Learning Campus)

The transition from childhood to adulthood can be a very confusing time for those with learning difficulties, a sensory impairment, autistic spectrum disorder or for those whose behaviours that can be challenging. Parents and carers may find it difficult to know what care package will ensure they have a fulfilled and independent life. Fairfield House specialises in the care of young adults aged 19 and 30 years and aims to help them develop the skills required to live with support in the community or to prepare them for life in a suitable residential home. I hope that this Statement of Purpose will give you the confidence that Fairfield House can support your loved ones continued development for a better future.



The focus at Fairfield House is to ensure each young adult gets to reach their full potential regardless of the barriers in their way. We work in a truly holistic, multi-disciplinary way where the divisions between care and learning are integrated. We are unique in our approach that the care staff support the young people in the home as well as assisting the onsite instructor to provide learning opportunities that can be linked to achieving recognised qualifications, ensuring true consistency across the setting, which is the only true way of allowing the young adults to thrive and develop their independence. We also value the insight and knowledge parents have about the needs of their child and the best way to support them. We work closely with parents throughout their child's time with us.

The care staff are extremely experienced and receive comprehensive on-going training to keep them at the forefront of best practice. Young adults are also supported by our own onsite support services that include Occupational Therapists, Speech and Language Therapists, and a Psychotherapist. To encourage community access, professionals outside of our service are used for their specialist input.

We have a flexible approach and always focus on the needs of the young adult. This is reflected in the care packages we can offer. Our care packages are bespoke and flexible, focusing on the needs of the young adult at this very specific time in their lives whilst working towards their future life goals.

We currently have seven bedrooms four upstairs and three down each with their own ensuite, lounge, conservatory, kitchen and family bathroom on both floors. We have an extensive garden area where the young people can spend time alone or supported by staff. We also have a hot tub housed within this area.

We hope this guide will answer some of your questions. Please contact us and we will be pleased to arrange for you to visit or answer any questions you have.

Georgia Preston  
Registered Manager

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## How We Care

Each young adult has a bespoke care plan built around them. The level of support, the constraints of the environment, tolerance of peers and levels of risk will be established by the multi-disciplinary team prior to the person joining Fairfield House. This will be combined to form a detailed profile.

Many of our young adults have specific communication needs. Our speech and language therapist works with support staff to write an individual communication passport. The communication passport ensures the young adult is cared for in a nurturing and consistent way. In addition each young adult has a positive behaviour support plan, risk assessment and specific health information.

For the first six weeks young adults will work to a general learning programme while the onsite instructor gets to know their individual development goals. After this time, a bespoke learning programme will be developed to focus on the individual development needs of the young adult. Altogether, this forms their care plan. All staff will be aware of the contents of this care plan and will work to it to ensure consistency.

The pivotal person in the young adult's care is their Key Worker. Each young adult is nominated a Key Worker within two weeks of their arrival; this allows us time to see the young adult's personal preferences and bonds with staff members ensuring a suitable Key Worker is selected. The Key Worker's play an important role in developing individualised care for their key person. The Key Worker will be the main contact for parents or carers, as well as professionals. They act as an advocate for the young adult, as well as their families, and will attend reviews and meetings, as well as helping the young adult to understand outcomes of meetings. This may be by putting the information into an easy read format or having a one to one discussion.

Each young person has a room of their own, personalised for them at the start of their time at Fairfield House. During assessment and on confirmation of a placement, personal decorative preferences, plus specific adaptations to the environment will be made to ensure it is a comfortable safe and positive living space. Personal finances are managed to meet the individual's needs. We are able to manage finances on a young adult's behalf however some parents prefer to keep this responsibility. Where possible young adults at Fairfield House are encouraged to manage their own finances; support is given at a practical level depending on their ability. Having some understanding or learning how to manage finances is a key development aim, especially if a young adult is aiming to live in the community.

We understand that young adults need to be entertained and kept active as boredom can often

be a trigger for behaviours that challenge. We are very fortunate to be in the country where we have open country side to enjoy also a large field of our own where we can take walks. We have a self contained cabin where we do art and craft activities and space to ride a bike or go-kart around the house.

We encourage our young adults to engage in as many offsite community activities as possible, these can be purely social for example attending discos and youth club or they can be used to enhance learning opportunities such as work placements at Acton Mill Farm or attending local Further Education College.

We have two vehicles to allow trips far and wide. Activities are tailored to the young adult, so the list is literally endless and can include cinema, discos, bike rides, shopping in local cities, Football matches, pottery, swimming, trampolining, gym, etc. We also ensure young adults have access to a holiday each year; from Butlins to Center Parcs, Camping to 5\* luxury hotel, all depending on individual choice (and of course budget).

We are committed to ensuring that no young adult is stopped from experiencing and enjoying their life because of barriers their disability may put in their way. Our risk assessment policy aims to enable not restrict.



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It is essential the young adults we care for have a voice and have a say in how the home is run. Their Key Worker has an essential role in acting as their advocate and ensuring their views are made known.

In addition to this our Shift Leaders also organise regular house meetings to ensure the young adult's voices are heard. These meetings also reiterate to the young adults important messages such as who are in the safeguarding team, what to do if you are worried, in an appropriate form of communication for the individual.

The ethos of Fairfield House is our truly individualised approach. Every element of the care package is bespoke to that individual; whether that be, their specific routine, the input from professional services, their diet or their cultural and religious preferences. The nature of the establishment having educational instruction and care in one building with onsite professional support services gives the opportunity to truly build a multi-disciplinary package around the young adult.



## Supporting Behaviour

Our young adults are diagnosed with varying disabilities, they have significant differences in cognitive ability and communicate in different ways. Every person referred to live at Fairfield House display some challenging behaviour. This is our specialism and is what is at the centre of everything we do. All forms of behaviour are seen as some form of communication. As a team of specialists we aim to give the young adult a more appropriate way of communicating.

The house uses a positive approach to promote positive behaviour. Our physical intervention technique is called NAPPI (non-abusive physical and psychological intervention) Our aim is to reduce and eliminate the need to use physical intervention wherever possible.

All staff are fully trained in NAPPI. Proactive and preventative approaches are always used in dealing with problematic behaviours, but at the same time we challenge the young adults to ensure they are fulfilling their potential.

NAPPI helps us to develop approaches to manage challenging behaviour in a reactive way to keep the individual and others safe from immediate harm. It also helps us to manage the positive aspects of a person's life and reduce challenging behaviours by providing enrichment across three main categories; Caring Community, Productivity and High Quality Relaxation.

All young people have a Red, Amber and Green Lalemand scale, which is a holistic behaviour support plan. The Red scale gives a consistent way of dealing with a young person's behaviour and clear guidelines on what should and should not be done. We do use specific trained NAPPI physical interventions to ensure people are kept safe. However every intervention, and in fact every incident, is closely monitored by the Registered Manager, as well as the onsite NAPPI trainers. We believe in a transparent approach so all incident records are shared with parents/carers and any other significant person in the person's life.

The Amber scale focuses on the person's stress factors, those factors of an individual's life that can cause them to move towards challenging behaviour. By recognising and understanding these, we are able to support the individual to manage stress in a more positive way. Challenging behaviours have a function, to seek or avoid something either sensory, tangible activity or attention. By assessing the functions of behaviour our approaches and responses become more person specific and proactive.

The Green scale focuses on those areas that make a person's life worth living. By providing meaningful activities, we can enrich a person's life and build their self-esteem. The best way to stay safe is to build a strong relationship with those around us. The time to build relationships is when people are doing well; the best way to extend that time is to enrich their life.



## The Learning Environment

The main ethos driving the learning provision at Fairfield House is meeting the young adult's individual needs to enable them to reach their full potential and move on to live as independently as possible.

Each young adult has an Individual Learning Programme (ILP). Learning is tailored to each individual's needs and then any progress is tracked and evidenced through ongoing assessment. ILP's are reviewed quarterly and adapted to meet changing ability and needs. We employ approaches that are carefully matched to the individual's learning style.

Support staff are trained to use various approaches, systems and strategies including PECS and Makaton to support, communicate with and develop each young adult. When a young adult arrives at Fairfield House we recognise that many of them will have had a difficult experience of learning which has impacted negatively on their self-esteem, for this reason, much of the learning takes place in the home environment in a relaxed way. We aim to assist learning through experiences rather than classroom based activity.

Carefully and holistically devised learning, care and health outcome plans aim to foster a sense of self-worth whilst focussing on the key areas of learning. Our multidisciplinary team, consisting of education, care and therapy staff, work together to enable students to communicate effectively, to develop their confidence and to increase motivation in order that they develop the fundamental skills for learning.

To ensure progress the staff team employ a variety of tools to assist in the collection and analysis of data. This important information is used by members of the multidisciplinary team to focus on individual needs, to plan interventions and devise appropriate strategies so that the needs of the learner are always kept as the main focus and are reviewed regularly.

When we welcome a new person to Fairfield House we recognise the important role that the family have already played in their early care and education. We work closely with parents and family to provide appropriate learning, care and therapy for their child. Parental involvement is an important part of our work.



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## Health

We have onsite, Speech and Language Therapists (SALT) and Occupational Therapists (OT).

Speech and Language Therapists assess how each young adult communicates and create a formal communication system to meet their needs. This could be a Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) for requesting things they would like or need, and a visual system to help young people understand and be prepared for what is happening during the day. They also work with young adults on the skills they need to access learning and to function successfully in society. This includes giving them the motivation and confidence to communicate and the ability to generalise their skills in new settings and environments.

Occupational Therapists work with young adults to enable the development of their motor skills, sensory processing and visual perceptual skills. These are the key skills needed for young adults to participate effectively in life tasks, social activities and their education, through functional activities. Our OT's specialise in Sensory Integration Therapy and the Assessment of Motor Process Skills, developing programmes to meet the students' needs as part of the Schools multi-disciplinary team.

We also have excellent links with the local GP practice, dentist and opticians in the local town. All residents are registered with the local GP practice, dentist and opticians.

Residents are supported to attend appointments, make decisions on their own well-being and healthy living style, with appropriate levels of support from staff. In addition we have input from a variety of professions including psychiatry and psychotherapy.

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## Meet the Team

### Brian Jones

#### **Chief Executive Officer of the SENAD Group and Responsible Individual**

Brian is the Chief Executive officer and Responsible Individual for the SENAD Groups adult homes in England. He is based at the SENAD Group Head Office in Derby.

Brian was appointed Chief Executive Officer in 2006. Prior to this he acted as the group's Chief Operations Officer. Brian has worked at CEO and Director level within local authorities, as well as the voluntary and independent sector. He has significant experience in the design and set up of high quality children and adult services across Great Britain. With this expertise Brian leads the groups vision to provide a comprehensive network of education and residential care services, working in partnership with young people, parents and local authorities.

### Georgia Preston

#### **Registered Manager**

- BA honours – Introduction into leadership & Management (Bournemouth University)
- NVQ 4 Health & Social Care / Registered Managers Award

Georgia has been supporting adults with learning disabilities and challenging behaviour since 1998 and has held supervisory positions since 2004.

She is passionate about providing safe, value for money person centred care that delivers meaningful outcomes for people.

### Martin Carter

#### **Campus Principal**

- BEd (Hons) London University
- NPQH

Martin joined the SENAD Group in February 2013. As Campus Principal his role is to lead and develop the range of SENAD services within Herefordshire. This includes Rowden House School, the adult provision within Winslow Court and Cedar Lodge, plus three adult community homes.

Martin has over 20 years' experience in the field of learning disabilities, including three previous Headships. He is committed to person centred approaches and cares passionately about positive outcomes.

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## Ruth Nolan

### Head of Learning

- BEd (Hons) Bath Spa University
- NVQ 7 Diploma in Leadership and Management

Ruth joined the SENAD Group in February 2013. As Head of Learning her role is to create a consistent approach to the development of learning within the SENAD services in Herefordshire, ensuring that each provision is tailored to the individual's needs.

Ruth has over 20 years' experience of teaching and senior management in a variety of educational settings. During this time she has developed an empathy and understanding of students' educational, emotional and social needs and is committed to supporting continuing development, knowledge and understanding for all learners and staff.

## Brian Lock

### Quality Improvement Manager

- CQSW
- PQASW
- PgDipSW
- PgDipMH&SC
- PTA

Brian joined the SENAD Group in 2009. His role is to help all the services within the group continue to improve the quality of outcomes for young people and adults. Brian has over 30 years experience within the social care sector. Prior to joining the SENAD Group he was a Social Care Inspection Manager for Ofsted and the CSCI.

Other team members include:

**Nadene Costello, Occupational Therapist**

**Lynne Gillison-Kirkham, Psychotherapist**

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## Staffing

The Registered Manager is supported by three shift leaders, three teams of three Residential Support Worker an Activity Co-ordinator and two waking night staff.

Staffing is on a ratio of 2 staff to 3 young adults for the waking hours of the day. Specific staffing requirements will be agreed during assessment. This enables a degree of independence in all settings. Staffing levels can be lower for times of independent working, break times, play/leisure times or very routine based times. Our role is to increase independence skills where possible, however, it is likely that there will be some times when the high staffing support is required. This might occur when anxiety levels increase; when new tasks are introduced or for some trips. Managers are always rostered as supernumerary to the staffing levels to ensure they are available to support when and where needed.

During night time hours, waking night staff are employed. Sleeping in staff are used to support Fairfield House waking night staff in the event of an incident or emergency situation.

All care staff receive a comprehensive induction training package. New staff complete the Care Certificate within 12 weeks of joining Fairfield House. Staff have the opportunity to perfect their skills and complete targeted training to meet the specific needs of our young adults.

All staff receive monthly support and supervision with their line manager and will receive an annual appraisal which will set targets and agree their personal development plan.

SENAD offers staff training in anti-discriminatory practice as part of our mandatory training. We promote difference and diversity as a positive thing. We attempt to help support the young adults who we care for, and our staff to embrace the multicultural society we live in.

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## Safeguarding, Bullying and Complaints

Fairfield House promotes a safeguarding environment throughout its service. We have a positive relationship with the local safeguarding team and refer any concerns to them in the first instance. All our staff have whistle blowing and safeguarding training. Our golden rule is 'if you have a concern tell someone!' We are as transparent as possible with all those concerned.

Incidents of bullying are openly shared and discussed to ensure everyone is kept safe. Key Workers will explain the impact of bullying in a way that each young adult can understand and may call in additional support if necessary.

### Reporting a concern

If you're concerned about the quality of care, tell us. If someone is in danger you should contact the police immediately.

We see complaints as part of the learning process; it helps young people understand how to resolve issues appropriately and helps the home continually improve and develop practice.

In the first instance any complaint should be referred to the home to resolve. If this cannot be achieved the complaint can be referred to our group central office, SENAD and/or the Care Quality Commission (CQC). SENAD will follow its complaints procedure by appointing someone independent of the home to investigate. The final stage is for any unresolved complaint to go to a complaint panel.

To speak directly to CQC contact:

### General enquiries

National Customer Service Centre:  
Telephone: 03000 616161  
Fax: 03000 616171

### Or write to

CQC National Customer Service Centre  
Citygate  
Gallowgate  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE1 4PA

It has not been possible to include full policy documents in the Statement of Purpose. Where reference has been made to a policy it can be obtained from the home or from the SENAD Group website, [www.senadgroup.com](http://www.senadgroup.com)

There is a format for young adults which is simplified and uses symbols. We work with parents and guardians to provide statements in a format the young adult will understand. These could include symbols or photograph timetables.

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## Policies and Additional Information

The SENAD Group owns and operates a number of schools and children's homes and has a set of common policies and procedures which apply to all settings. The Group has a philosophy of operating in an open and transparent manner, involving and keeping parents and placing authorities informed of all incidents, accidents and positive outcomes as regular as possible. Copies of most of SENAD's policies are freely available on our website, [www.senadgroup.com](http://www.senadgroup.com) or can be supplied on request. As a Group we welcome feedback.

Mr Brian Jones is Chief Executive Officer and Responsible Individual for all of the SENAD adult homes. He is based at the SENAD Group Head Office in Derby.

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## Contact

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