

Country Care Children's Home

The Scannel
Children's Guide



Our Statement of Purpose Summary

The Scannel is a registered therapeutic children's home providing care, accommodation and therapy for up to three young persons up to 17 on admission.

The Scannel is a warm, therapeutic environment, offering each young person real hope for the future. Each young person is given opportunities through education, achievement and support, to plan for a better future. Young people have the chance to put damaging and disruptive environments and experiences behind them; whilst maintaining their place in their own families. We regard ourselves as a positive choice for girls or boys for whom residential care is the preferred option. Most placements are long term; shorter placements are available for young people working towards independence or moving towards family placements.

During their stay we assess and address each child's needs through education, therapy, planned activities, individual direct work and group work. Our routines ensure safety, boundaries and consistency, whilst providing each young person with positive experiences; new, achievable challenges; success; and positive reinforcement. At the end of their stay young people are prepared for moving on and helped through that period of transition. Post placement support and follow up work is undertaken as necessary dependent on the young person's personal requirements for support. Each young person is treated as an individual and has privacy, freedom and choice to develop and progress. We encourage and assist the girls and boys to express themselves appropriately; assess their own situation; and take part in planning their own futures. The young people work towards their own goals and learn to take control of their own lives, providing the basis for supporting them into independent living. We actively encourage and support young people in developing their potential through education and support each young person to gain appropriate qualifications and experiences as well as providing support through to higher education.

Aims/Objectives

- To provide a safe, stable, stimulating, structured and warm therapeutic environment, with space to grow.
- To provide a well-trained, experienced staffing team who are caring and appropriate adult role models.
- To engage in individual direct work, focusing on individual issues that help a young person explore and understand past experiences and enable them to move forward constructively.
- To support education needs by building positive relationships with local schools who can provide a broad and balanced curriculum with examination up to GCSE in a variety of subjects, aiming to prepare the young people for working life and to become positive members of society.
- To develop the individual's self-esteem, emotional resilience and build a more positive self-view.
- To create achievable challenges for both the individual and the group designed to improve social skills, teamwork and leadership skills and develop respect for self and others.

YOUR OWN SPACE

You will have a comfortable bedroom all to yourself. When you arrive, we will help you to make the space your own, decorating your room with posters and pictures. Everyone has a TV with stereo in their rooms for them to watch and listen to in their own time. Keeping your room clean and tidy is very



important, and we can help you to do this. Your room is your own private space- the other children are not allowed in your room and staff will always knock and wait for permission before entering your room. You will be able to lock your room when you are in it and you will also be given a key to lock your room when you leave. You will have a safe in your bedroom so that you can lock personal and valuable items away.

INTERESTS AND HOBBIES

When you first move to The Scannel, we will ask you about your hobbies and interests and try to find local places that you might like to go. Some of the young people enjoy local youth clubs, where they can meet and make new friends. Some young people have horse riding lessons or music lessons, some join dance groups and others enjoy team sports such as football cricket or basketball. If you are interested in joining army, air or fire cadets, football, netball, rugby, cricket, Go-Karting there are local groups you can join.

FOOD

The staff team write the menu every week and you will get to make suggestions for the menu during the monthly children's meetings. We're very good at cooking for special diets and will always make sure there is food that you like available. We like everyone to eat healthy balanced meals, but we also enjoy treats like meals out once per month. If you like cooking, we encourage independence and are always happy for you to help cook the meals and lots of our staff are very good at baking too! Picnics and bbqs in our outdoor garden are also fun to try during the warmer weather.

As you get older, we encourage you to increase your independence skills. Your key workers will arrange an independence plan that will include shopping for and cooking some of your own meals, as well as carrying out your own laundry. This will also include some work to help you think about budgeting your money so that you can manage independently when the times comes.

DAILY ROUTINE

On a school day, we will wake you up at 7.30am. By 8.00am you should be up, dressed and downstairs having your breakfast. We chat about the day ahead over breakfast. The time for you to set off for school will depend on the School you attend and your timetable. The staff team will support you and ensure transport is arranged for you to get there in good time. After school, you can relax around the house if you have no appointments.

Tea is ready for 5:30pm and we all sit together to eat. After tea, we ask everyone to do their evening jobs before going out anywhere. Once you've done your job we can stay in and relax or go out to do an activity.

At the weekend, we will wake you at about 11am so you can enjoy a lie-in if you want one. There will be a cooked brunch for everyone to enjoy and then you can relax in the house or take part in any activities that have been planned. On Saturday nights, we sometimes go out as a group to do an activity or other weeks, we just enjoy Saturday night TV!

To keep you safe, we have a fire drill every 2 months so that we all know what to do if there is a fire in the home. The important things to remember are to leave the building through the nearest fire exit as quickly as possible without running and to then meet at the Fire Assembly Point. The staff members on shift all know what to do in the event of a fire and will make sure you get to the fire assembly point safely.



Chores

You will be asked to do two small jobs each day, one in the morning and one in the evening. They might be things like clearing the table after a meal or unloading the dish washer. Everyone (including the staff) do these jobs; it is a way of making sure the home is kept nice and tidy. It is also how you earn some of your points and build your independence skills.

Bedtimes

Age	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Years	Years	years	years	years	years	years	years	years	years
Bedtime	7:45pm	8pm	8:15pm	8:30pm	9:00pm	9:15pm	9.30pm	10:00pm	10:15pm	10:30pm

Bedtimes depend on your age. However, everyone gets the opportunity to earn a 30-minute bedtime extension each day through positive behaviour and attendance in school. Sometimes you get to stay up later if there is a special outing or activity planned.

GOING TO SCHOOL

Everyone at The Scamnel goes to school. Don't worry if you have missed lots of school, we can support to help you catch up. We have a good relationship with the local schools in the area who will keep us up to date with your progress.



POCKET MONEY

Everyone gets pocket money at The Scamnel. You will be asked to do your daily jobs and go to school to earn a bonus on top of your £9.00 weekly pocket money. If you earn all of your ticks on your points sheet for the week, you get an extra £2.00. £5.00 pocket money is also saved for you so you can enjoy more planned activities during the school holidays. You can spend your pocket money on things like sweets and magazines, or you can choose to save it. Some of the young person's save their pocket money to engage in more costly activities.

You get £30 every month to buy clothes and £15 every month to buy toiletries. You also get £15 every month to spend on haircuts and colour. We will help you manage this money to make sure you always have enough clothes and toiletries.

The Scamnel saves £11.00 for you each week. This money is kept for you for when you move on to a new residence.

FAMILY TIME

If you come to live at The Scamnel, we feel that it is really important for you to keep in touch with your family and friends. We have a phone that you can use to keep in contact with family, friends, social workers and people that are important to you. Some young people have mobile phones and you can use the internet to keep in touch with people too, if this is safe.

We know that for young people living away from home, seeing their family is very important and we do everything we can to support you in seeing your family

members. We work with your social workers and your family to make sure family visits are fun and safe for everyone.

MY KEYWORKERS

Everyone at The Scamnel will have two key workers. These two people will work closely with you to make sure all of your needs are met. Your key workers will lead your placement planning, risk assessment and health planning. They will do all of this with you, so that we know exactly what your needs are. They will also talk to your family, your social worker and anyone else that works with you, to make sure we are all helping you as much as possible. There will be regular reviews of how things are going. These may be reviews of your placement run by a manager and your key workers, or a full Looked After Children (LAC) Review led by your Independent Reviewing Officer. Your social worker and any other professionals working with you will be invited to attend your LAC Review.



Your key workers will offer weekly key sessions where you can work on anything that is helpful. You can work on your self-esteem or do some anger management, or your key workers can help you with managing your other emotions. Your key workers will also support you with any day-to-day worries or problems you might have.

All your keywork sessions will be written up and you can sign this once you have read it.

THERAPY

When you arrive at The Scamnel, we will ask you to attend a psychological assessment that will identify your therapeutic needs. This assessment is just a chat with someone independent of Country Care who will concentrate on how best we can help you. The person that does this assessment will talk to you about the type of therapy that will be most useful to you. Once a therapist has been chosen, you will have the opportunity to engage in therapy each week.

Your Voice

We think that it is really important for you to voice your thoughts and feelings on your care here. We will always listen to your views and ask you to comment on any reports that are written about you. We ask you to come to reviews and meetings that are about you, so that your opinions can be heard. Your key workers can help you to voice your views if you are nervous about this.



We involve the young people at The Scannel as much as possible. We always want to hear your views on how to improve the home. There is a monthly young people's meeting where you give ideas for the weekly menu and discuss different things going on at the home.

The staff on shift will record your interactions each day so that they can monitor your progress and see if there are any areas that they need to help you with. You will also have a Care Plan, Health Plan and Risk assessment to make sure all your needs are being met. Your social Worker, key workers, maybe some other professionals and significant others will have input in to this too. They will work as a team to make sure you are getting the best care possible.

You have the right to access your file if you want to. This can be done with one of your keyworkers. They will go through it with you and explain things if you do not understand.

Complaints

If you are ever unhappy about how things are done at The Scannel, it is very important that you know how to make a complaint. You can always speak to a member of staff or the managers about a complaint or you can write your complaint down (staff can help with this if you want). Complaints forms are kept in the living rooms, but you can also ask a member of staff to get one from the office. One of your keyworkers or a manager will listen to your views and then resolve the issue in the best way possible. Your key workers can also help if you are unhappy with the care that is being given to you. If you wish to make a complaint to someone outside of Country Care, you can contact the Ofsted inspector. Your independent advocate or social worker, who may help you to voice your complaints.

BULLYING

Everyone that lives at The Scannel deserves to feel safe and enjoy their time here. Country Care does not allow anyone to bully another person and we will always keep you safe.

My Keyworkers are:

My Social Care Department is:

My Social Worker is:

My Independent Reviewing Officer is:

The Ofsted Inspector is, Tel: 0300 123 1231

The Children's Commissioner for England is Dame Rachel de Souza

Website: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk

Rachel also provides advice through advice line Help at Hand:
www.help.team@childrenscommissioner.gov.uk

Tel: 0800 528 0731

Or email: info.request@childrenscommissioner.gov.uk

Regulation 44 Visitor:

Independent Advocate: When you come to live at The Scannel, we can help to find you an independent person to talk to and help make sure your voice is heard. If you already have an independent visitor or advocate, they are welcome to keep visiting you here.

I _____ confirm that I received a copy of Country
Care's Children's Guide on _____ .

From this guide I understand how to make a complaint and that I have the right to look for an
advocate if I wish.

I can also confirm that I know how to get in touch with:

	Tick
My Social Worker -	<input type="checkbox"/>
My Social Care Department -	<input type="checkbox"/>
My Independent Reviewing Officer -	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children's Rights Officer/Advocate -	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ofsted Inspector -	<input type="checkbox"/>
Independent Visitor -	<input type="checkbox"/>

YP Signature: _____

Date: _____