



## All About Us

Drove Road comprises three residential units; 55A has provision for four short break beds (and one emergency placement bed); 55B has three full-time or shared-care beds; 55C offers one full time bed.

Drove Road is staffed for 24 hour support and staff currently work across all units.

Residential short break stays are provided for families as a supportive and preventative service, designed to enable young people to remain in their own



homes for as long as possible. We have residential short breaks provision for up to four young people on planned stays, and one emergency bed. Drove Road also provides fulltime placements for four young people, enabling close family relationships within the locality.



We operate for 363 days of the year, for young people receiving short breaks or shared care packages, 365 days per year for 4 young people receiving full time support.

While young people are staying with us we aim to provide a positive, safe, stimulating and supportive environment where individual's needs are met. Emphasis is placed on social interaction, communication and personal

development to maximise opportunities for self-confidence, self- advocacy and to enhance life skills.

We are Ofsted regulated and have 2 inspections a year. One full inspection and one interim inspection roughly 6 months later.

We also have visits from an independent visitor, which take place on a monthly basis to provide ongoing records of performance and monitor practice, as well as to build relationships with staff and young people, enabling good communication.

All young people need to go through the referral process via their Social Worker to be able to access a service at Drove Road.

## Our Facilities

### 55a Drove Road

This part of Drove Road has 5 bedrooms (they are named by colours), a large lounge, a large kitchen/dining room, a bathroom, shower room and separate toilet.

### 55b Drove Road

This part of Drove Road has 3 bedrooms, a good sized lounge, dining room, bathroom and separate toilet.



### 55c Drove Road

This is a one bedroom flat on the ground floor of the building, currently providing a full-time placement for one young person.

We also have a sensory room, a ball pool, an art and music cabin, trampoline, and very spacious garden containing swings and wooden play/climbing equipment. These are used by all of the young people who receive a service at Drove Road.



## Staying at Drove Road

The staff team endeavours to create a safe, homely atmosphere and to provide a range of leisure, social, sporting and educational activities to ensure each young person's stay is an enjoyable experience.

All young people have a Lead Support Worker (LSW) who is assigned to them before they are admitted to Drove Road. He/she will visit the young person at home and school and get to know them, so that when they come for their first visit they will already know someone and see a familiar face.

Young people can come and look round Drove Road with their parents to see where we are and what we have to offer. We have a young people's guide and a parent pack full of all the information they need about our service..

New young people have 3 introductory tea visits. This usually means the young person will come after school and go back home around 7pm. If all goes well, the next time they come will be for their first overnight stay.

After this the young person will then start their package/pattern of stays. The package of stays is decided by the Practice Manager, parents/carers and the young person's Social Worker.

All young people are encouraged to bring personal belongings such as photos and pictures, so that their rooms can be personalised for each stay. Personal items can be kept at Drove Road between stays.

The four full time placements do not share their bedrooms. Their rooms are decorated in the colours they have chosen and they can make their rooms their own with posters, photos and soft furnishings etc.

### **Daily routine**

#### **During the school term:**

**Morning** - wake up for school/college, wash/shower, get dressed, breakfast, brush teeth, tidy room, then off to school when the school/college transport arrives (Home to school transport arrange the transport for the young person – we liaise with them so they know when the young person is staying at DR)

**Afternoon** – Arrive back from school/college, make bed and unpack bag (if it's the first night of the stay), snack, choose activities to do until dinner time, lay the table, dinner, DVD/computer/music, bath/shower then bed.

**Weekends and school/college holidays** – wake up, TV or relax in your room, wash/shower, breakfast, jobs, activities – a trip out or stay in, lunch, DVD/computer/music – staff change – activities in or out of the unit, lay the table, dinner, DVD/computer/music, bath/shower then bed.

All Lead Support Workers write an Essential Life Plan for the young person they keywork – this has all the relevant information the staff need to be able to work with the young people in the best way to support all aspects of their care needs. Lead support workers will liaise with parent/carers, school and other professionals to put this together. With the information they have collated they will then set achievable developmental goals for that young person. We monitor these daily and plot how the young person is doing, these are then reviewed and changed if achieved.

We recognise that communication needs vary. We offer different types of communication and individual systems such as picture symbols (PECS), photographs and sequencing which are available and used throughout the home. We also use Makaton and have good experience with VOCA's (Voice Output Communication Aids).



# Activities and Opportunities

All of the young people that stay at Drove Road have goals set for them by their LSW after discussions with parents/carers, school and the rest of the team. We think it is very important to teach the young people skills that they will need to use in day to day life.

At Drove Road we offer a range of activities to the young people. We do many activities within the unit – ball pool, trampoline, sensory room, arts and crafts, music, cooking and baking, the computer and interactive board, puzzles and games, football, skittles, go-karts and bikes, sand pit and gardening.

When we go out into the community we go on lots of walks to different places (beaches, woods and parks), shopping, the cinema, bowling, swimming, bus and train journeys, parties, football matches, BBQ's and discos. During the school/college holidays we go on longer day trips to theme parks, zoos and places further a field. We also go camping in the summer holidays to Ashdown Forest.



The young people that live in 55b have the opportunity to go and do afterschool/college activities in which they are interested i.e. drumming, yoga etc. Staff accompany the young people to support them in these activities. In addition the young people are encouraged to maintain friendships, and our full time young people can have friends to visit, as well as being supported to visit friends in their home if the opportunity arises.

55a has an eight seater car and 55b has a seven seater car. These are used to take the young people out on trips and outings. We supply specialist car harnesses if they are required.



We also host a summer BBQ and Christmas party each year for the young people and their families.

## Health and Well Being

We encourage healthy eating and exercise at Drove Road. We write our menus in- house taking into consideration what the young people like to eat, any dietary requirements, religious requirements, and the school lunch menu, to make sure the young people are having a well- balanced diet. We have a cook, but also encourage the young people to help if they are keen, and it is safe, in order to promote life skills.



We try very hard to all sit down (staff and young people) and eat together every meal time. We feel that this is a very important part of developing young people's social skills and promotes good manners.

All young people have risk assessments for all activities they do in and out of the unit. The staff complete and review these on an annual basis and have mandatory training on this regularly. All young people have a minimum staffing ratio of 1:1 unless there is an exceptional circumstance.

All staff at Drove Road are trained to give daily and emergency medication. This training is also mandatory and refreshed annually.

## Working Together

We work closely with parents/carers and all professionals involved in the young people's lives.

The staff team works closely with parents and other agencies to establish a care programme for each young person that encourages personal development, choice and independence, social and leisure opportunities.

Lead support workers visit schools and teachers on a termly basis to discuss working together towards the same goals for each young person. All young people have regular meetings where the professionals involved in their care meet to review their care plans and behavioural support plans. We invite different professionals to our staff meetings to discuss particular issues and to gain more knowledge, and have statutory visits from the Social Work team to monitor young people's progress in the placement.

# The Drove Road Staff Team

**Practice Managers** – Karen Rusbridge and Vikki Witham  
Practice managers have a LMA.

**Senior Care Officers** – Claire, Ellie, Izzie, Karen T (Night Team), Kirsty and Sarah. All Senior Care Officers have an NVQ Level 4 or a QCF5

**Home Care Support Workers** – There are 23 home care support workers.  
All Home Care Support Workers and Night HSCW's have or are working towards a QCF Level 3 Diploma for the Children and Young People's Workforce (an NVQ Level 3 or equivalent)

**Night Home Care Support Workers** – There are 6 night home care support workers.

**Domestic staff** – Barbara and Lynsey

**Handyperson** – Peter

**Admin Team** – Lynda and Andrew

The staff work shifts so that there is somebody here 24 hours a day.  
The early shift runs from 7am-2.30pm, but may be shorter in term time.  
The late shift – runs from 2-9.30pm.

We have a member of staff 'sleeping in' every night and our night team work from 9.15pm-7.15am the next day and they are awake for the whole night.

Our mandatory training includes

- First Aid
- QCF level 3
- PROACT-SCIP training
- Autism awareness
- Manual Handling
- Food Safety
- Safeguarding Children
- Fire Warden
- Internet Safeguarding
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Administering medication
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## Contact us

For a referral you will need to speak to your social worker. Or you can contact:

Integrated Child Development & Disability Service  
Seaside View Child Development Centre  
Tel: 01273 265825  
Email: [seasideview@nhs.net](mailto:seasideview@nhs.net)

