

APPENDIX 1

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Criteria for Providing accommodation

- 4.1 In line with Nottinghamshire County Council Social Service Department operational guidelines all requests for residential and STB (Short Term Breaks) provision will be considered by the 'Inter-Agency' panel (IAP). Emergency admissions are not appropriate for the client group at Minster View. All placements will be planned and considered as a positive choice for the young person and their family. The eligibility criteria for admission is as follows:
- 4.1.1 Any child looking to be placed at Minster View either on a residential basis or for STB's will have a severe learning disability (currently functioning around half the level of expected developmental age) **combined** with manifestations of challenging and difficult behaviours. Challenging behaviour can be defined as "children with a learning disability who have behaviour which is of such intensity, frequency or duration that the physical safety of the person or others is likely to be placed at serious jeopardy, and which is likely to seriously limit or deny access to and use of ordinary community services" (Emmerson 1998). In IQ terms 'severe learning disability' would normally equate to an IQ score of between 20 and 35. This will be determined by an assessment by a Psychologist, Core Assessment and via a Statement of Special Educational Needs.
- 4.1.2 The child/young person should be of school age between 4 and 19 (for STB provision) and between the ages of 12 and 16 (on admission) for residential placements. Although consideration will need to be given to individual circumstances/needs in terms of age, children aged under 12 years old should be considered in the first instance for family placements. As per Departmental PPG all children accommodated under the age of 10 years of age should have a plan for discharge within 2 years. Minster View should not be viewed as a long term 'holding' placement prior to moving on into adult care. Rehabilitation home or a move into family/community based placements should be the long term aim of any placement.
- 4.1.3 The child/young person should attend their own school.
- 4.1.4 Parents/carers and the child/young person should fully participate in the planning of all residential and respite episodes.
- 4.1.5 Children/young people should reside in the Gedling, Rushcliffe, Broxtowe and Hucknall areas of Nottinghamshire for STB provision.
- 4.1.6 The level of STB's legally is a *maximum* of 120 days per year. Levels allocated are determined by the IA panel and must be equitable.
- 4.1.7 Parents/carers will be asked to provide full information regarding the health and medication needs of the child/young person.
- 4.1.8 All periods of respite care will be planned.

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- 4.1.9** The child/young person should be reasonably ambulatory. The unit cannot offer high levels of supervision/facilities for profoundly physically disabled children/young people.
- 4.1.10** All children/young people are required to have a full assessment of need, including a Core Assessment.
- 4.1.11** All children/young people **must** have an allocated social worker.
- 4.1.12** Consideration should always be given in the first instance as to whether a family placement would better meet the needs of the child/young person (see 4.1.2).