



**LEICESTERSHIRE CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL  
SHORT BREAKS SERVICES**

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

**SC032069**

**DATE: January 2021**

**REVIEW DATE: January 2022**

This Statement of Purpose is available to the following:

- The children and young people accessing the service
- The parents/carers/guardian ad litem of the children and young people
- Leicestershire County Council Disabled Children's Service and other stakeholders/commissioners
- The manager and staff of the service
- The Registration and Inspection Unit

In accordance with Regulations, the Statement of Purpose will be published on Praxis Care's web site.

**Useful contact addresses:**

**PRAXIS CARE**

25/31 Lisburn Road  
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BT9 7AA  
Tel: 0289 023 4555

**OFSTED**

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Store Street  
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M1 2WD  
Tel: 0300 123 1231

**The Glenfield & Melton Projects (URN: SC032069)**

154 Station Road  
Glenfield  
Leicester  
LE3 8BR  
Tel: 0116 232 0021

**Disabled Children's Service**

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Leicestershire  
LE67 3EA  
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### **All available from the office on request;**

1. Children and Young People's Charter of Rights
2. Locality Risk Assessment
3. Statement from the Diana Children's Community Nursing Service
4. Covid-19 Risk Assessment
5. Children and Young Peoples' A-Z Guide
6. Staff qualification's

### **Also available on request Policies on:**

- 'Managing Challenging Behaviour'
- 'Use of Physical Intervention'
- 'Missing Persons'
- 'Untoward Events'
- 'Restrictive Practice'
- 'Anti-Harassment & Bullying' (Anti-Discrimination)

## **QUALITY AND PURPOSE OF CARE**

### **1.1 AIMS**

In order to access the service, the service criteria must be met. The service criteria is a child between 6 and 18 years of age with a learning disability. The service will provide appropriate quality care and support to children typically on the autistic spectrum and/or challenging behaviour and those with enduring physical multiple health needs.

### **PRAXIS CARE: OUR VISION**

Leading the co-production of innovative individualised, support approaches across the UK and Ireland.

### **OUR MISSION**

Empowering lives that are valued, meaningful and inclusive, regardless of the complexity of need, every day.

### **OUR VALUES**

These are what make Praxis Care unique, helping us take the right decisions; guiding us in our work with service users, each other and the wider community.

#### **Passionately caring**

Praxis Care is so much more than a job. We are aware of the enormous trust placed in the uniqueness and potential of every person we support.

#### **Compassionate**

Compassion for people who face real challenges in their lives is a defining component of what makes us Praxis Care.

#### **Person-Centred**

We assist people to make informed choices about their own lives and shape the support they receive around their individual needs and aspirations.

## **Acting with Integrity**

We uphold the rights of every person, ensuring their confidentiality, privacy and dignity are respected. Acting with honesty and transparency in all interactions with our service users, their families, our staff, our partners and the public.

## **Protecting Individuals**

The best interests of service users are paramount. We work in partnership with other organisations, safeguarding individuals, ensuring risk is managed, and encouraging positive risk taking.

## **Innovating & Improving**

We are committed to continuous innovation through practice based research, development of our staff and feedback from the people we support.

### **1.2 OBJECTIVES**

- To provide a safe and homely environment in which to live or enjoy residential short breaks.
- To provide person centred care and support of a type that reflects good practice and is based on a thorough assessment of needs.
- To promote the principles of choice, respect, dignity and confidentiality and treat each child or young person as an individual.
- To uphold the rights of the child or young person.
- To enable each child or young person to develop to his/her optimum level of functioning.
- To support each child or young person to make decisions and take considered risks which directly affect their daily lives.
- To ensure that meaningful links are established with partners/stakeholders in the scheme, including family/carers.
- To promote active citizenship by encouraging inclusion and participation within the local community and ensure equality of opportunity in accessing local services.
- To ensure that the views of the children and young people and their families are sought and used to shape the delivery of the service.

- To ensure each child or young person has an identified key worker in the service.

### **1.3 ACCOMMODATION**

The Glenfield & Melton projects operate from Glenfield on the outskirts of Leicester. The homes are within convenient distance of major road links, but set in a village location on the edge of the city. The area is mainly residential, but with the convenience of some local shops, library, places to eat and parks. Within a short drive, it is possible to access country parks, swimming pools, museums, places of interest, farm parks, theme parks and main shopping areas as well as many other attractions.

The Glenfield Project is housed in large bungalow, well set back from the road, but close to the centre of Glenfield village. Within the bungalow are four well-proportioned bedrooms, a fully equipped sensory bathroom with Jacuzzi bath and a separate shower room, a large lounge and open plan dining area, a purpose built and well equipped sensory room and a refurbished kitchen. All bedrooms, bathrooms and the lounge have ceiling track hoists fitted to enable safe moving and handling for those who require it and the beds have electric profiling systems for comfort. In order to prevent unauthorised access to the building, there is a coded touchpad entry system and the garden is fenced around the perimeter. The building and garden are easily accessed throughout. The project owns an adapted minibus to enable the children and young people to access the local community and travel away from the project on trips.

The Melton Project is housed in a purpose built ground floor extension with office accommodation on the first floor which can be accessed either by stairs or a lift. All four bedrooms are en-suite, the assisted bathroom has a Jacuzzi bath; there is a large lounge, dining room, kitchen and large inner hall which doubles as a useful activity space. An induction loop has been installed to support those with additional auditory needs. The garden is fenced around the perimeter to ensure the children are safe and there is an electronic entry system to the main building and residential wing. The Melton Project has its own minibus which enables the children and young people to access the community easily and enjoy trips further afield.

### **1.4 HOLISTIC NEEDS**

Praxis Care is committed to ensuring that all children and young people in its services are cared for and supported in a manner that respects their culture and religion and where there are language or communication barriers, every effort will be made to ensure that their communication needs are effectively met. Specific religious requirements including dietary considerations will be discussed at admissions panel. Where a child or

young person must have access to the church of their faith, every effort will be made to accommodate this.

Praxis Care promotes inclusion and integration into the communities in which its services are based and does not tolerate discriminatory behaviour towards the children and young people, their families or staff. Bullying and harassment is also not tolerated in any form.

## 1.5 COMPLAINTS

Praxis Care has an established Complaints & Compliments Management Policy. Praxis Care promotes an open culture where service users/carers/relatives are encouraged to express views. A 'How to Make a Complaint Guide' along with a leaflet is given to each child or young person, in an accessible format, and to any person acting on the child or young person's behalf. Praxis Care endeavours to locally resolve any issue/s raised by children and young people/carers/relatives in the first instance. However, Praxis Care recognises that, in some instances, complaints require further investigation. Praxis Care has a nominated Complaints Officer who can be contacted in this instance at this email address [complaints@praxiscare.org.uk](mailto:complaints@praxiscare.org.uk) .

Children and young people and their parents/carers are also provided with the contact details of the Statutory Agency and Regulatory and Commissioning bodies with whom the complainant can contact if satisfaction is not reached. Advice on the process of making a complaint is also available via the organisation's website- [www.praxiscare.org.uk](http://www.praxiscare.org.uk)

## 1.6 ACCESS TO POLICIES

Praxis Care has a comprehensive Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) to house all policies and procedures. A list of relevant Policies and Procedures can be found in Appendix 1 and these are available to parents and carers, commissioners and inspectors on request.

## 2. LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF LEICESTER CHILDRENS' SERVICE

### 2.1 Service Management and Staffing Matters

The scheme is **short breaks service** registered to provide 24 hour care and support to **approximately 50** children or young people, both male and female, between the ages of **6 -18 years old**, with a diagnosed learning disability and/or physical disability and/or challenging behaviour.

Further information on the service can be found in the Service User Guide and the A-Z: both are available on request, and a copy will be provided prior to admission and again as reviewed.

### **2.1.1 REGISTERED PROVIDER**

Based in Belfast, Northern Ireland, Praxis Care is the registered provider. 25-31, Lisburn Road, Belfast, BT9 7AA. Telephone (028) 90234555.

### **2.1.2 DIRECTOR OF CARE & DEVELOPMENT & RESPONSIBLE PERSON**

The Director of Care and Responsible Person for the service is **Richard Broughton** and can be contacted here **[RichardBroughton@praxiscare.org.uk](mailto:RichardBroughton@praxiscare.org.uk)**

### **2.1.3 HEAD OF OPERATIONS FOR ENGLAND**

The Head of Operations for the service is **Ruth Harrison** and can be contacted here **[RuthHarrison@praxiscare.org.uk](mailto:RuthHarrison@praxiscare.org.uk)** The Head of Operations is responsible for the direct line manager of the service, and reports to the Director of Care.

### **2.1.4 SCHEME MANAGER**

The scheme manager is **Luke Fowkes-Goodwin** and can be contacted here **[LukeFowkes-Goodwin@praxiscare.org.uk](mailto:LukeFowkes-Goodwin@praxiscare.org.uk)** The scheme manager is responsible for the day to day management of the service and reports directly to and is supervised by the Head of Operations.

### **2.1.5 STAFF TEAM**

The service is funded to have the following staff ratio:

Manager: WTE (39)

Team Leaders: WTE (8.2)

Support Workers: WTE (17.8)

Staff are available 24 hours per day and 7 days per week

Agreed staffing ratios per shift are **1:1**

The service employs both male and female staff and prior to employment are required to have a minimum of **Level 2 in Health & Social Care** and have the following qualifications as a minimum **Level 3 in Health & Social Care see Children's Home Regulations, 2015.**



The manager maintains a register of staff training, experience and qualifications that is available to the inspector on request.

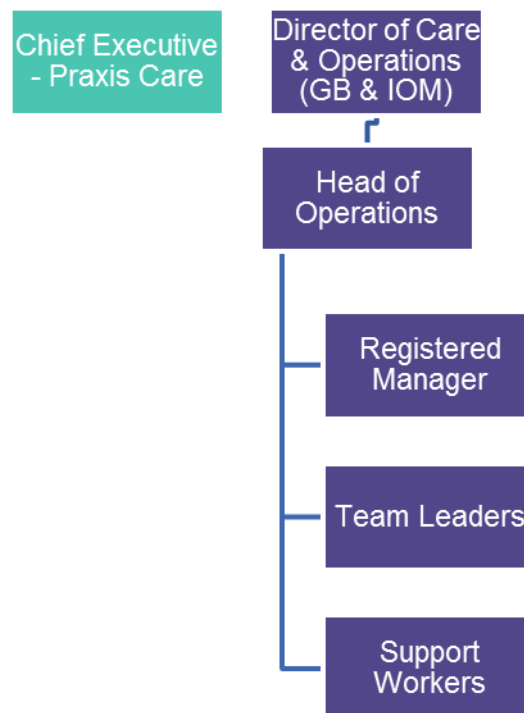
## 2.2 STAFF SUPERVISION, TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Praxis Care views its staff as its most valuable commodity and is committed to promoting professional growth by providing induction for new staff, supervision, appraisal and a comprehensive training calendar.

All new staff are required to complete a thorough induction programme, comprising of face to face training, e-learning and the completion of a workbook which is quality assured by the Learning And Development Department. This will be completed during the 6 month probation period.

All staff receive bi-monthly supervision from their line manager, with one mid-year review and an annual appraisal, to set personal and professional targets for the year ahead.

## 2.3 PRAXIS CARE SCHEME MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE



### 3 CARE PLANNING

#### 3.1 REFERRAL CRITERIA:

- The child or young person will be in the **6-18** years age group at the time of referral.
- The child or young person should be able to show a residency history in the jurisdictional area of the local authority **Leicestershire County Council (LCC)**, or neighboring authorities where LCC agree to allow access to block commissioned beds.
- The child or young person should meet the criteria as defined by the service's Ofsted Registration, which is as follows: may only provide care and accommodation for up to 8 children, may provide care and accommodation for children with learning disabilities (LD) and may only accommodate children or young adults under short break arrangements and not for permanent placements at the home.
- The child or young person should meet the criteria for referral to the service, as defined by the local authority's Disabled Children's Service. LCC commission 6 of the available 8 beds under a block contract arrangement.
- A further two beds are available under a spot purchase arrangement for additional nights by other commissioners, parent, local authorities etc. Children referred under the spot purchase arrangement will need to meet the same criteria for the registration and undergo assessments of needs as below.
- The child or young person and/or their parents/carers will be agreeable to the referral being made and, where possible, have had an opportunity to view the scheme and discuss the services on offer.
- Placement in the scheme; potential service users should have their needs thoroughly assessed before being accepted to the service; this is intended to provide each service user and their parents/carers with the best possible information on which to make an informed choice about their future and to ensure that the service can meet all identified needs.

#### 3.2 REFERRAL PROCESS

Referrals will only be accepted from members of the Disabled Children's Service via the Team Manager, usually at monthly Operational Meetings. Referral agents from outside the Leicestershire area should, in the first instance, contact the Placements Officer for Leicestershire County Council if seeking to access the 6 block contracted beds. Direct referrals can be

made to the service if commissioners wish to utilise the spot purchase beds. This would be an independent arrangement with Praxis Care. Spot purchase beds are available on a residential short breaks arrangement and must comply with our Ofsted regulations.

In addition to the residential short breaks, the service has agreed to offer day care support to identified children through arrangements/contract with LCC. The manager will liaise with LCC commissioners to agree when this can be implemented.

Essential criteria for acceptance to the services at the Glenfield Project are learning disabilities and complex health care needs in children and young people between the ages of 6 and 18 years, living within Leicestershire.

Essential criteria for acceptance to the services at the Melton Project are learning disabilities and/or challenging behaviours in children and young people between the ages of 6 and 18 years, living within Leicestershire.

The basic package of care provides five nights of overnight short breaks every ten weeks. Need is assessed on an individual basis and packages of support will vary dependent upon this.

The projects have 6 beds under a 'block contract' with Leicestershire County Council and as such, only provides short breaks or residential services to referrals received through the Disabled Children's Service (Spot purchased beds can be commissioned as preciously described). A completed Core Assessment Form must be compiled by the referring Social Worker to include information on risk. Decisions on accepting referrals will be made at this meeting with the initial levels of short breaks provision required being identified at this time.

The decision will be communicated to the child/young person's parents/carers as soon as possible by the referring Social Worker prior to contact being made by the relevant project's staff. The child/young person and parent/carer will be invited to visit the scheme and discuss their needs with Praxis Care staff if they so desire.

Praxis Care's input will cover the range of health and social needs set out in Department of Health guidance. All information will be treated

confidentially. The assessment process helps the staff to be sure that the service can meet a potential service user's requirements and to make an initial plan of the care and support provided.

Prospective service users and their families will be provided with as much information as possible about the service to help them and their parents/carers make a decision about whether or not they want to receive our support. Praxis Care offers the opportunity for a prospective service user to visit the accommodation with their parents/carers and meet and talk with service users and staff.

The organisation is happy for a prospective service user to involve their friends before making the final decision about placement if appropriate.

It is felt that if the accommodation or service is not suitable for a particular young person, the issues will be discussed at the monthly Operational Meeting after full and inclusive discussions with all relevant parties.

Once referrals have been received, an Admission's Panel will be convened to discuss how the service will be able to meet the needs of the child/young person, how any identified risks will be managed and compatibility with others using the service.

The panel's decision will be communicated to the child/young person's parents/carers as soon as possible by the referring Social Worker prior to contact being made by the scheme manager. The child/young person and parent/carer will be invited to visit the scheme and discuss their needs with Praxis Care staff if they wish to do so.

An Appeals Procedure is in place and information is available on request.

### **3.3 THE RANGE OF NEEDS MET**

The scheme aims to meet the following needs. (Please note that the following is not an exhaustive list).

#### **Support Tasks**

- Maintaining the property
- Safety issues
- Signposting to specialist services

- Essential daily living tasks
- Emotional support
- Communication support
- Supporting people to comply with treatment
- Where appropriate, notifying agencies of concerns about a child/young person
- Referral to Advocacy services if required

### **Care tasks**

- Administering medications
- Health care needs
- Specific rehabilitation tasks
- Intensive/therapeutic behaviour management
- 24 hour supervision of young people
- Personal care
- Transport to and from school to be organised
- Recreational services both within and away from the project
- Transport to and from clubs/churches where appropriate
- Domestic, laundry and catering services

### **3.4. EMERGENCY PLACEMENTS**

Young people may be placed at either the Glenfield or Melton Project in an emergency situation under certain circumstances. Ofsted conditions of registration allows for the placement of one (total) young person in an emergency providing that the total number of young people receiving care does not exceed four and the emergency placement lasts no longer than the agreed time frames. A temporary variation of registration will be considered by Ofsted, which could enable a residential placement.

The young person does not need to be known to the project. However the young persons' needs must remain within the admission criteria as stated in the project's Statement of Purpose. However, if the young person is known to the project then the process would be as for a normal admission. Existing care plans and other information would be followed and the young person would be cared for in the usual way.

#### **In the event that the young person is not known to the project the emergency placement should follow this process: -**

- The request for the emergency placement will be made by the manager of the Disabled Children's Service or the Duty Social Worker.
- The Project Manager or Team Leader on duty would progress the placement at the necessary speed.
- The appropriate forms must be completed to include information on the levels of support required before the young person is left in the care of the project.

The emotional care of the child/young person will be considered with staff giving appropriate support.

It might not be possible to undertake the tea visit, home visit, school visit stage of introduction to the project.

It might be necessary for the assessment stage to take place on the phone in a short space of time to allow for a same day placement if necessary. The Project Manager or Team Leader on Duty would need to ensure the following requirements are met;

- Ofsted registration conditions met to include the temporary variation to registration
- Project admission criteria met
- Needs of the young person can be met by the staff on the rota
- Appropriate compatibility with other young people

If the project is already operating at capacity and/or any of the young people are not compatible with the emergency placement the worker from the Disabled Children's Service will be responsible for cancelling any young person and informing the relevant family.

The post admissions meeting will take place during which the placement will be reviewed. If possible, timescales for ending the placement will be set, but in any event, an emergency placement should not last longer than 72 hours with the exception of those admitted to the service under the temporary variation of registration.

### **3.5. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN OF CARE**

Each child or young person availing of the service will have a detailed person centred plan of care devised, following the completion of a thorough needs assessment. The child or young person and their parents or carers will be involved in the care planning process, where appropriate to do so. A risk assessment will also be devised, and will accompany the person centred plan. Where appropriate, a Positive Behaviour Support Plan will also be prepared.

Plans are reviewed on an ongoing basis but are formally reviewed on a six monthly basis. Multidisciplinary reviews are held **typically every 6 months** during which the support plan and risk assessment are reviewed against the effectiveness of the service.

An emergency review can be convened at any time. From time to time further assessments of elements of need might be required to ensure that the support provided is relevant to helping the child/young person to achieve their desired outcomes and full potential.

### **3.6 ENDING THE SERVICE AND TRANSITION**

A service may end for many reasons, such as a change of needs, moving out of the catchment area or transitioning to adult services. In normal

circumstances, a young person will move on from the service at 18 years. The manager and key worker will support the young person and their parents/carers during the transition to adult services. During their 17<sup>th</sup> year, the young person will have an identified Transitions Social Worker appointed to support them and their family from Children's services into Adult services, whilst ensuring the continuation of existing services.

#### **4. HEALTH**

Both the Glenfield and Melton projects will work with parents/carers and a range of health care professionals to promote the health and wellbeing of the children and young people. A detailed assessment of needs will form the basis of the support plan and staff will receive regular and appropriate training in all areas to ensure that these can be met. The Diana Children's Community Nursing Service provides health care training and in-house support for those with complex healthcare needs, whilst the CAMHS team provide advice and support to those with challenging behaviours and mental health issues.

Parents/carers remain responsible for the health of service user. Whilst the service user is accessing the project staff have the responsibility for promoting and protecting their health and wellbeing within the context of the service being provided. We will work in an honest and open manner, consulting and working in partnership with families and appropriate others to ensure information is shared and care plans are agreed and followed.

Staff will support with medications, ensuring that these are booked in, dispensed and administered safely, keeping accurate records and liaising with prescribers to promote clarity of instructions and dosages. Detailed records will be maintained to evidence this.

All dietary needs will be catered for, including those which are administered via gastrostomy tubes and naso-gastric tubes (additional training is provided for this). The vast majority of the meals offered are prepared by staff from raw ingredients and staff are all required to complete certificates in Food Hygiene. We aim to offer nutritious, healthy options, taking into consideration any dietary and cultural preferences we are informed about. The local Environmental Health Officer will inspect the kitchens on a regular basis and award a rating based on the general cleanliness and safe practices with food preparation. Records relating to dietary intake and kitchen hygiene will be maintained for reference.



Both staff teams are very conscious of the need to encourage and educate the children and young people on the benefits of keeping active and healthy. Where possible, lots of physical activity is encouraged with walks around the local area and time in the garden to play on/with the equipment and where this is less feasible, the children and young people are supported with appropriate exercise and physiotherapy. Staff will endeavour to make physical activity fun to encourage enthusiasm for this.

## **5. ENJOYMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT**

Praxis Care endeavor's to empower children and young people to live their lives as fully as possible, regardless of their disability. As part of the assessment process, information will be gathered on preferred social and leisure activities and hobbies so that activity planners can reflect these wishes and preferences. Activities in the local community that promote inclusion are promoted and encouraged, following individual and group risk assessment.

Praxis Care encourages positive risk taking as this can be a learning experience, though staff will respond to any situation they feel is inappropriate or likely to cause harm or danger to the child or young person.

Praxis Care will try to make it possible for service users to live their lives as fully as possible. In particular, it will do the following:

- As part of the moving-in process, potential service users will be encouraged to share as much information as possible about their social, cultural and leisure interests.
- Service users will be helped to continue to enjoy as wide a range of individual and group activities and interests as possible both inside and outside the accommodation, to carry on with existing hobbies, pursuits and relationships, and to explore new avenues and experiences. All young people are entitled to use the dining area, the communal lounge, other sitting and circulating areas, and the grounds of the scheme but those who wish, may remain in their own rooms. Service users are encouraged to personalise their own rooms with small items and other possessions.
- In partnership with service users, social and leisure activities will be designed to form the basis of the communal content of the life of the

scheme. Friendships among service users will be facilitated and it is hoped that service users will enjoy being part of a community, but there is no compulsion on a service user to join in any of the communal social activities.

- Recognise that risk-taking is a vital and often enjoyable part of life and of social activity and that some service users will wish to take certain risks despite or even because of their disability. Praxis Care does not aim therefore to provide a totally risk-free environment though care will be taken to ensure that service users are not subjected to unnecessary hazards. When a service user wishes to take part in any activity which could involve risk, a thorough risk assessment will be carried out with that individual, involving if they so desire a relative, friend or representative, and Praxis Care will agree and record action which will appropriately balance the factors involved. Such risk assessments will be regularly reviewed, with the participation of all parties.
- For the benefit of all service users and staff, the whole site has been designated as non-smoking.

## **6. VIEWS, WISHES AND FEELINGS**

Praxis Care values feedback, both positive and negative, which can be used to improve the quality of the services provided. Feedback is sought in many forms, including annual Service User and Stakeholder Surveys and on a monthly basis during the regulatory visit by an independent person.

Praxis Care aims to give service users and their parents/carers opportunities to participate in all aspects of life in the accommodation. In particular, service users are regularly consulted both individually and corporately about the way the accommodation is run. The Organisation's objective is always to make the process of managing and running the projects as transparent as possible, and to ensure that the accommodation has an open, positive and inclusive atmosphere.

Children and Parents' feedback is regularly sought and recorded on the support plans for their child/young person. Both services have established fundraising groups which actively seek out parental support and participation and opinion on what funds raised should be spent on.

Regular satisfaction surveys are carried out by Praxis Care's Research Department in relation to service user involvement issues. Children and young people are invited to participate in project meetings to ensure their views and opinions are considered in planning within the scheme. Their ideas and participation are actively sought and their feedback used to inform the planning of activities, outings, menus and colour schemes. They are also encouraged to provide their own feedback at review meetings and appropriate communication forms have been devised for this purpose. Due to the nature of the disabilities of the children and young people accessing the projects, verbal communication can be limited. However, we value the input from them and their families on their views of the service provision and recognise the importance of this in shaping the way in which we evolve and deliver the service.

Where possible, the view of the young person will be sought directly and this might be ascertained from their reactions to social events and activities. We will provide familiar communication methods and tools to promote this.

Young people and their families are actively encouraged to become involved with the 'Friends of Melton/Glenfield Project' and utilise this as a opportunity for meeting and networking with other parents/careers in similar situations to their own.

## **7. POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS**

Service users are given every possible help to maintain the links they wish to retain with their families and friends outside the accommodation, but can choose whom they see and when and where. Supervision can be provided if this is required.

If a service user wishes, their friends and relatives are welcome to visit at a time convenient to the service user and to become involved in daily routines and activities.

If a service user wishes to be represented in any dealings with the accommodation by a nominated friend, relative, professional person or advocate, Praxis Care will respect their wishes and offer all necessary facilities.

The Glenfield & Melton projects will promote the development of positive, professional relationships between staff members, children and their families with clear boundaries, based on trust and understanding. It is recognised that children thrive when they receive positive adult and peer interaction in a nurturing environment and we are committed to providing homely and welcoming accommodation, supported by staff who are thoroughly vetted and genuinely interested in their role.

## **8. PROTECTION OF CHILDREN**

Praxis Care has comprehensive Child Safeguarding, Risk Management, Health and Safety and Fire Safety Policies and Procedures in place and the registered manager ensures that the required periodic checks, inspections and drills are completed and recorded, for the safety of staff and of the children and young people. Policies are available on request.

### **Surveillance and Monitoring**

In order to protect the privacy and dignity of the children and young people and the high staffing levels available, it is not deemed necessary to maintain surveillance equipment routinely.

However, it is, on occasion, considered to be appropriate in the monitoring of children/young people who are at risk of nocturnal seizures and/or breathing difficulties. Rapid detection of these can allow early intervention and prevent a child/young person's condition from becoming serious or even life threatening. Where it is considered appropriate, the staff team will utilise an audio monitoring device which will pick up the noises made by a child/young person to alert them to this fact and allow them to prepare and administer emergency recovery medications in a timely fashion and seek medical attention. The use of monitoring devices is considered to be the least restrictive measure that we can use effectively. Any use of listening devices such as this will be incorporated into the individual's support plan and risk assessment in agreement with parents/carers and Social Worker.

All Praxis Care staff are trained in Child Protection and there is a dedicated Safeguarding Champion appointed in the organisation. Practice in the service is aligned to the ENG - CHILD SAFEGUARDING & PROTECTION POLICY & PROCEDURES

As the service is registered to support children and young people with challenging behaviour, all staff are trained in the use of Team Teach which includes de-escalation and diffusion strategies as well as the use of safe physical restraint. Restraint is used only as a last resort, to protect the child/young person or others and must be risk assessed, agreed at Multidisciplinary level and recorded as a restrictive practice. All forms of restraint and restrictive practices are reviewed regularly.

Staff who are trained in the use of Team Teach must complete periodic refresher training, and be competency assessed by those delivering the training.

## **8.1 MISSING CHILDREN**

Praxis Care has a Policy and Procedure in place for missing children. In the unlikely event that a child goes missing from the service or in the community, whilst in the care of the service, staff will follow the protocols agreed with Leicestershire County Council Disabled Children's Team and Leicestershire Police. Statutory services, Ofsted and scheme management will be informed.

## **9. EDUCATION**

Every child has the right to an education and the scheme promotes positive working relationships between staff and teachers. Key workers will liaise with school staff on a regular basis to ensure that all relevant information is shared appropriately and kept updated. An appropriate area in the home in which to complete homework will be identified and staff will support each child or young person with homework as required.

Transport to and from school will be arranged by the projects through Special Educational Transport based at County Hall in agreement with Disabled Children's Service Social Worker.

Each child/ young person's Statement of Educational Need will be requested and filed.