

# Statement of Purpose

## Oak Tree Rise

**Registered Office Location: Northamptonshire Supported Living**  
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**Registered Provider:** Autism East Midlands  
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[www.aem.org.uk](http://www.aem.org.uk)

## **Our Vision**

A World which recognises, understands and values people with autism, and where they, and their families, receive the services and support they need throughout their lives.

Everyone at Oak Tree Rise will receive personalised support which is evidenced in practice and supported by the relevant documentation.

All our Team Members are encouraged to be actively involved with the delivery of support and actively contribute to the development of the service.

## **Our Mission**

To advocate, provide and develop high-quality services, information, and support, in partnership with others, for all those whose lives are affected by autism.

To recognise and respond to the needs of the individual, enabling autistic people to live their lives with dignity, choice and independence.

Our well trained and passionate staff offer a wide range of services to help individuals to live their lives the way they want.

## **Philosophy, Aims and Objectives**

Autism East Midlands's philosophy advocates that individuals with an ASC should live their lives with dignity, choice and independence to the maximum of their ability.

The well-being and progression of our individuals is the underlying ethos. All individuals are given respect and time to achieve their own personal level of attainment with a focus on outcomes. Individuals have choice and opportunities and, where required, are supported in the choices they make.

Support packages are tailored to individual need, maximising their dignity and control. Where required, person centred support plans are designed to offer additional help with communication and social skills and to compensate for impairment with social imagination.

The principles of Person Centred Planning (PCP) and Positive Behaviour Support are promoted throughout Autism East Midlands.

Where required, the use of communication aids such as Signs & Symbols, Picture Boards, PECS and 'Talking Mats' all aid in maximising the choice and control of the individuals we are commissioned to support.

Individuals are supported to have a range of fulfilling social and leisure activities. People are supported to maintain contact with their families, friends and develop relationships within their local community.

All of our individuals are enabled and supported to make choices and take managed risks in order to increase their independence. Providing this support is regarded as a fundamental part of staff duties.

Full consideration is given to the Mental Capacity Act (2005); Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards in the development of person-centered support plans. Autism East Midlands are proactive in supporting individuals to engage with independent advocacy services and the IMCA service (where appropriate).

Northamptonshire Supported Living will be registered with The Care Quality Commission at the above address to provide the regulated activity of Personal Care. Further details can be found at [www.cqc.org.uk](http://www.cqc.org.uk)

### **About Northamptonshire – Oak Tree Rise Supported Living**

The support at Oak Tree Rise is delivered by Autism East Midlands under this registration has been developed in conjunction with the commissioners within Local Authorities and CCGs in the locality. In many cases this support has been provided with aim of supporting people who are placed out of area to return to their local area, often where they have existing friends and family members.

As a supported living service Northamptonshire Supported Living operates in line with best practice in the area, this includes the REACH standards, and the NDTi Real Tenancy Test. Similarly the service has been developed in line with both “Registering the right support” (2017) and “Right support, right care, right culture” (2020).

As such all of the individuals we support are free to choose their own care provider, and there exists no direct relationship between their accommodation and their care provider of choice. In addition, we ensure that all individuals are supported to maximise their independence and their engagement with the local community.

The people we support are actively involved in the design and delivery of their support packages. We encourage parents and wider circles of support to be as fully involved as is appropriate. Parents are invited to attend reviews and have regular contact with a keyworker whenever required. Arrangements are made for visits to the family home, which are appropriate for both the family and individual.

We ensure individuals are free to attend religious services of their choice, with support if required. All individuals' religious beliefs are respected and supported.

There is a formal Complaints Procedure, which is detailed at the end of this document.

### **Services Provided**

Northamptonshire Supported Living offers supported living in Northamptonshire to adults (18-65) with a learning disability and autistic spectrum disorder.

## **The Team**

The service is managed by an appropriately qualified, skilled & experienced Manager, who is supported by a team consisting of an Assistant Manager, Team Leaders and Autism Practitioners.

All staff are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring check and receive training appropriate to their role.

This includes, but is not confined to:

- Level 2/3 Diploma (minimum for direct support workers)
- Care Certificate
- Autism and Asperger Awareness Training
- Mental Capacity Act / Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards
- Safe Handling of Medication
- First Aid
- Food Hygiene
- Health & Safety
- Manual Handling
- Risk Assessment
- Fire Safety
- Equality & Diversity
- Epilepsy
- Infection control
- Positive Behaviour Support training (CALM)
- Sensory Training
- Safeguarding Training

Training needs and opportunities for further development are identified through supervision and annual appraisal for all staff.

All our staff have a professional responsibility to respect the rights of individuals, treat them with respect and dignity and protect them as far as possible from danger or harm. Staff performance is monitored by the Management Team within the service.

Northamptonshire Supported Living has access to Autism East Midlands's internal Positive Behavior Support Team (PBSP). Individuals are supported to access external agencies and professionals when necessary and identified by .

## **Recruitment**

Autism East Midlands has a robust recruitment procedure in place. Records include an Application Form, two satisfactory written references and a Disclosure and Barring Check.

Service users are, wherever possible, involved in the recruitment and selection process and are able to choose the staff who will be supporting them.

## **Referral and Assessment**

Potential referrals to the service are agreed through local health and social care commissioners to ensure the service meets identified local need. Our 'Service Placement Operational Guidelines and Procedures' helps in ensuring that a prospective individual receives an assessment to determine whether the service is able to meet their needs. The referral panel is responsible for taking the final decision.

## **Evaluation of Service**

The service is monitored and evaluated by a number of internal and external bodies: -

- The service user voice framework – introduced to ensure people are involved in their care and supported to express views, wishes and to ensure all our service users have a voice and as much choice and control as possible. This is dependent on each person's understanding, therefore this is supported via different methods for example – direct observations, individualized handover audits, incidents and daily involvement.
- Parent / Carer & Service User feedback
- Staff feedback & improvement actions
- The Care Quality Commission inspections
- Regular review of Individual Support Plans
- Internal Quality Assurance Audits
- The Management of Oak Tree Rise maintains a transparent communication approach with the Local Authority in Northamptonshire
- The Management of Oak Tree Rise meet regularly with the Support Officer twice monthly from Northampton Partnership Homes (NPH) who manage the properties on site
- Quality monitoring audits carried out by local funding authorities.

## **Northamptonshire Supported Living will capture evidence around the following outcomes:**

Individuals have maximum choice and control over their lives.

Health and wellbeing are at an optimum level because the individual has an Annual Health Check and a Health Action Plan that is implemented in partnership with health professionals and key stakeholders. In addition to this, support workers will be able to identify any deterioration in an individual's condition and make prompt referrals to the appropriate healthcare professional.

The expected health, wellbeing and social interventions (as identified in the Care and Support plan) are being met and the individual continues to progress towards and meet their goals.

Individuals are supported to engage with the local community and, where appropriate, there is evidence that a 'network' has developed around the person.

An individual's behaviour is less challenging because they are supported by staff with the right knowledge, skills and training and the individual's life is active, meaningful to them and involve people they wish.

Individuals are supported by the right staff who seek to optimise potential by ensuring they are always delivering person-centered care and support based on the individual's needs, outcomes and aspirations. Each person has a bespoke individualized handover plan in place, which is audited by the Service Management and shared as required with the commissioning authorities.

The individual's home is secure and the individuals can decorate their homes as per personal choice. Each person is supported to manage their tenancy and develop their independent living skills.

The individual is protected from avoidable harm and safeguarded from emotional and physical abuse.

Individuals are supported to manage their available finances where possible, though we respect the individual's right to make unwise choices we go through their budgeting processes to support each person's understanding. For monies we hold on behalf of an individual, we keep these secure and audit.