

DAY SERVICE INFORMATION

Location: Tall Trees Day Service
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Provider:

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Aims and Objectives

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Statement Of Purpose

August 2019

Autism East Midlands is a registered charity, which aims to ensure that opportunities are made available to service users to maintain their individuality, maximise their independence and enhance their quality of life.

Philosophy

The service will:

- promote equal opportunities
- be sensitive to peoples' needs
- respect people & preserve their privacy and dignity
- put the needs of the service user at the centre of decision making in respect of their individual support and their involvement in the decision making process
- provide information on which service users and appropriate others may base their decisions
- meet individual needs through a process of assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation
- enable service users to maintain existing skills and interests, encourage new ones and to promote progression towards greater independence.
- support a multi agency approach drawing on the experience of others to meet identified needs

Engagement with flexible day services provides individuals with holistic person centered support delivered in the following ways:-

- engaging with the community.
- promoting health and well being.
- support to make informed choices and have control of their life.
- promoting independence and developing new skills.

The Service

Tall Trees is a flexible day service located in the heart of Retford, with easy access to the town centre, local shops and supermarkets, in addition to amenities such as Kings Park. The building is able to support up to 40 people with Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC) and related conditions.

The building has wheelchair access and dedicated transport to support individuals into the wider community, as well as good transport links for those who prefer public transport. Our specialist staff team are committed to enhancing individuals with ASC opportunities for personal growth, community inclusion and development of like skills.

What is ASC?

ASC is a pervasive development disorder affecting communication, socialisation and flexibility of thought. This can manifest itself in various ways, including:

- ⇒ an impairment in the ability to accurately process and retain information
- ⇒ an impairment in communication skills
- ⇒ a rigidity in thought processes
- ⇒ an impairment in forward planning
- ⇒ difficulty in understanding risks and consequences
- ⇒ difficulty in developing social relationships

The Staff Team

All members of staff undergo training specific to their role and to ASC. Everybody has received an enhanced DBS check. Minimum training requirements are:

- ⇒ Common Induction Standards (new staff)
- ⇒ Autism / Asperger / PDA awareness.
- ⇒ Mental Capacity Act / Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards / Equality & Diversity
- ⇒ Safe Handling of Medication
- ⇒ First Aid / Food Hygiene
- ⇒ Health & Safety / Manual Handling / Risk Assessment / Fire Safety
- ⇒ Intervention techniques
- ⇒ Epilepsy training (including the administration of Buccal Midazolam)
- ⇒ Infection Control

All staff receive regular supervision and appraisal, and are encouraged in their personal development to meet the needs of the people they support.

All members of staff have a professional responsibility to respect the rights of service users, treat them with respect and dignity and protect them as far as possible from danger or harm.

Our Ethos

At Tall Trees we positively promote the people we support to discover new skills and interests, develop and maintain their existing skills, get involved in their community and to find their own ways in managing any difficulties they experience due to ASC. We do this by:

- offering a wide variety of activities. These include horse riding, gardening, walking, swimming, shopping, coffee mornings, bowling, computers, music, arts & crafts
- accessing ASC appropriate services and resources. These include “in house” psychology and speech and language therapy, PECS systems, Makaton, intensive interaction, aromatherapy, our own sensory room and gardens, and having space available for individuals who need time to themselves
- getting “out there”. At Tall Trees we are ideally situated to use local community resources such as shops, cafes, the local market, parks and library. Many of our service users engage in activities such as litter picking and conservation. We actively work to support our local community and have a good profile in Retford
- getting to know the person. Our staff are highly trained and work intensively to get to know how the individual’s personality interacts with ASC to affect them. This allows us to put together person centred plans reflecting each individual’s hopes and aspirations and map ways in which they might be achieved. This allows us to guide the person towards discovering coping strategies for difficulties they might be experiencing.

Quality Assurance

Tall Trees is monitored and evaluated by internal and external bodies. These include:

- ⇒ Service users feedback
- ⇒ Parent / carer feedback
- ⇒ Regular internal review of support plans and outcomes
- ⇒ Autism East Midlands Quality Assurance Audits
- ⇒ Regular reviews by funding authorities for the people we support