

Vinney Green Secure Unit

Statement of Purpose

2018



The unit is licensed for operation by Ofsted and it contracts with the Youth Custody Service to provide placements for young people. It is subject to regular inspection by a range of government and local authority approved officials, to ensure the highest standards are maintained at all times. The unit is managed by South Gloucestershire Council's Department for Children, Adults and Health. Ali Sykes is the Registered Manager of the unit.

In our last full Ofsted inspection on 10th – 12 April and 9th – 10th May 2018 the unit achieved Requires Improvement overall, and Good for Education

Please Note: *Numbering is in line with Regulation 16 Schedule 1 of The Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015*

Quality and Purpose of Care

1. The range of children that Vinney Green will provide care and accommodation for:

The unit is approved by Ofsted and registered with the Secretary of State to provide secure accommodation for up to 24 young people of both sexes between the ages of 10 to 18 years.

All of the places available at the unit are commissioned on a contractual basis by the Youth Custody Service (YCS) and young people placed at the unit must meet one of the following legal criteria:

Young people remanded to Youth Detention Accommodation as specified in the powers set down within the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012.

Young people sentenced to a Detention and Training Order (for periods of 4 to 24 months) as specified under Section 100 of the Powers of the Criminal Courts Act (Sentencing) 2000.

Young people subject to a recall for breach of Licence conditions whilst serving the community part of a Detention and Training Order under Sections 104 or 105 of the Powers of the Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000.

Young people sentenced through the crown court for grave and serious crimes under Section 90 or 91 of the Powers of the Criminal Courts Act (Sentencing) 2000.

Young people subject to overnight transfer arrangements under the relevant sections of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE) 1984.

The YCS may under certain circumstances permit Local Authority Children's Services to spot purchase a vacant bed at the unit to enable the Local Authority to place a young person on welfare grounds under Section 25 of the Children Act (1989) or Section 119 Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. Local Authorities wishing to place a young person below the age of 13 must also seek permission from the Secretary of State at the DfE or Welsh Ministers prior to the placement.

The YCS commissioning process requires a no refusal policy from the unit. Therefore if there is a contracted place available at the unit the presumption is that a referral will be accepted unless there are clear indicators that this would not be in the child's best interests. Young people referred through the juvenile justice system may have a complex range of needs such as moderate to severe learning difficulties, emotional and mental health problems, serious behavioural problems which place themselves or others at risk or they may be victims of emotional, sexual or physical abuse and neglect. The internal unit structures, staffing arrangements, programmes of work and externally commissioned services are designed to accommodate the needs of this diverse group of young people.

The YCS referral process will identify the young person's needs at the point of referral and these will be highlighted within the information made available through the Asset plus and other referral documentation. If it is felt that the needs of the young person cannot be met from within the existing levels of provision, the unit will consider the possibility of commissioning additional services or resources and this will be discussed with the YCS or placing authority. This may require an agreement for additional funding. Under these circumstances the final decision on the suitability of the placement will be made by the Head of Secure and Emergency Services or other delegated Care Senior Manager.

2. Vinney Green's ethos and the outcomes we strive to achieve

The young people held within the Secure Unit are likely to be amongst the most troubled and troublesome in the country. Vinney Green Secure Unit operates within a strong value base that places the needs of young people at the centre of what it does.

Vinney Green has the following aims:

- To ensure that each young person is legally and appropriately detained in Vinney Green.
- To ensure that each young person receives a good standard of physical and mental health care and can live a healthy lifestyle which reflects their personal needs and cultural background.
- To ensure young people are safe from harm and neglect.
- To work with young people and their families to lessen (minimise) the danger to themselves and others.
- To build a positive working relationship with young people, with the intention of successful reintegration into their communities, and prepare them to behave in a socially responsible manner.
- To employ a well trained and experienced staff group who will demonstrate pro-social behaviour with the young people.
- To achieve a detailed assessment of the young person including health, education, offending behaviour and emotional wellbeing.
- To actively pursue the development, personal growth and maturity of each young person by encouraging self- confidence, self-esteem and independence.
- To work with young people to reduce or eradicate offending behaviour.
- To work with young people to enhance their ability to maintain self-control and resilience.
- To create an environment (both in and out of school) in which learning and the pursuit of knowledge and skills becomes central to the needs of the young person.
- To ensure that for each young person there is a clear plan which includes the individual's contribution to preparing and developing the plan.
- To work with young people in promoting anti-racist and anti-discriminatory attitudes and to ensure that all young people from minority ethnic groups have their personal and cultural needs identified and met.
- To discharge the legal requirements and duties set down in law, contract and statutory guidance in the conduct of the unit's business.

The long-term objective of the unit is to work with young people to change their problematic behaviours to allow them to become a responsible member of his or her community. Full preparation for leaving will be undertaken with particular focus on individual need and circumstances, as well as training, education and employment opportunities.

3. Accommodation

- a. Vinney Green was designed and purpose built to exacting specification and standards. The main centre, which includes the educational facility, has accommodation for 16 young people. A separate living unit has facilities for up to a further 8 young people. The main unit was opened in February 1995 and the 8 bedded unit opened in 1996. The units have been designed to a very high standard and are structured to provide physical containment in an environment which is comfortable, attractive and offers a wide range of educational and recreational facilities.
- b. Vinney Green is licenced to hold 24 young people of either sex between the ages of 10 to 18 years of age.
- c. The unit is set within attractive landscaped grounds and offers a comfortable living and working environment in which young people are encouraged to invest pride and a sense of ownership. The educational and sporting facilities (which include a gym, fitness centre, all weather playing field and tennis court) are resourced to a very high level. Additionally, the living accommodation is comfortable, colourful and carpeted. Each young person has his/her own bedroom, with en-suite facilities and access to television and music systems. They are encouraged to personalise their rooms with appropriate photographs, posters and other personal items. Under no circumstances will young people share bedrooms.

The smaller unit is entirely self-contained with its own kitchen and social/dining area. It is situated in close proximity to the main building. The young people are included in the full group for education and leisure activities to maximise opportunities for development. Both buildings are surrounded by a range of grassed and courtyard areas which offer scope for outdoor interests

4. Location of Vinney Green



Vinney Green Secure Unit is situated in South Gloucestershire, located to the north east of the city of Bristol (South Gloucestershire) in an area called Emersons Green. The address is Vinney Green Secure Unit, Emersons Green Lane, Emersons Green, Bristol BS16 7AA. (If inputting the post code to GPS please use BS16 9AU.). Telephone Number 0117 9702286.

5. Cultural, linguistic and religious needs

Vinney Green promotes the cultural needs of young people placed at the unit. This involves language, food and religion. Vinney Green is able to translate written materials into different languages for young people and parents. There is also access to translators if required. Young people's linguistic needs will be assessed on induction and throughout their stay.

Young people are encouraged to follow and participate in their chosen religious practice as much as possible. Representatives from religious groups are encouraged to visit the unit. A multi-faith room is provided for prayer and other religious activities. As part of mobility, visits to a local church or religious establishment would be considered as part of an ongoing mobility programme.

6. Complaints

Young people accommodated at the unit have access to the complaints, comments and compliments procedure, which will be explained to him or her on admission as part of the induction process. All young people have an opportunity to express their opinion about food, clothing and other services and routines which affect their lives via this procedure, as well as during young person's representative and management meetings, during one-to-one keywork sessions and via the Coram Voice and/or Independent Regulation 44 visitor.

If you have reason to complain you may ask to speak to the Head of Secure & Emergency Services, Alison Sykes, or you may write directly to Ofsted at Piccadilly Gate, Store Street, Manchester, M1 2WD.

7. How to obtain a copy of the unit's Child protection or behaviour management policy

Vinney Green is part of South Gloucestershire's Department for Children, Adults and Health. Its safeguarding policies and procedures encompass specific and general guidance in respect of how allegations, complaints or suspicions of abuse, actual or possible, will be responded to within the Secure Unit. Vinney Green's safeguarding policies have been agreed by the local Safeguarding Childrens Board.

A copy of the unit's child protection (Safeguarding) policy can be obtained from the unit if required.

Vinney Green believes that wherever possible, control is maintained by positive and meaningful relationships between staff and young people. A feature of many of the young people admitted to the Secure Unit is that they will have a history of poor behaviour. It is inevitable, therefore, that staff will be confronted by difficult behaviour patterns at times. The primary basis for control is the relationship between staff and the young people, supported by a number of rules and regulations.

The unit operates a Rewards and Incentives system, emphasising the benefit of positive behaviour and the consequences of unacceptable behaviour.

A copy of the unit's Rewards and Incentives policy can be obtained from the unit if required.

Views, Wishes and Feelings

8. Vinney Green's approach to consulting children

Young people are consulted on various issues that could affect them during their stay at the unit. There is also an opportunity at the monthly meeting between Senior Managers and young people's representatives for any issues to be shared and discussed.

Young people can also raise issues about the quality of their care during keywork sessions. There are also two letter boxes where young people can post complaints, comments and compliments. These post boxes are opened and read by the Head of Secure and Emergency Services or a delegated Senior Manager in their absence.

9. Policy & approach in relation to anti-discriminatory practice and children's rights

- a. Vinney Green is part of South Gloucestershire Council which is committed to achieving an environment that does not tolerate discriminatory practices with regards to both staff, young people and their families.

As a rolling programme Vinney Green promotes Diversity and Equality for both staff and young people through training, themed programmes of work and pro social modelling group work for young people.

- b. All young people have access to a telephone in their bedroom which has free access to the Children's Commissioners for England and Wales, depending on their placing Local Authority. They also have free access to Child line, Samaritans, Coram Voice, Frank, resettlement advice help line, NHS quit smoking help line, Homophobia help line and their individual Social Worker, YOT worker and Solicitor.

They also have face to face access to an independent representative. Coram Voice is a registered charity which provides an independent representative who make themselves known to the young people at the Secure Unit and who will safeguard the rights and welfare of each individual. This representative visits weekly and is available to meet with the young people and advise them on matters which may be of concern.

Education

10. Special educational needs

Vinney Green is required by contract with the YCS to follow, "The learning journey for young people placed by the YCS in Secure Children's Homes 2008". All young people will have an individual learning plan which is based on assessment and fully integrated with the young person's sentence planning process. Where needed, young people will receive additional learning support to enable them to achieve their learning goals. Vinney Green will deal with SEN according to the DfE SEN Code of Practice.

11. Curriculum

The care, treatment, education and support for young people are central to Vinney Green's philosophy. This is reflected by the wide range of professional services the Unit offers, brought together within individually tailored placement plans, overseen by the Unit's Senior Managers, all of whom are professionally qualified.

All young people are expected and encouraged to participate in an individual educational programme relevant to their specific needs following their induction assessment. The Unit's educational programme operates for fifty weeks of the year.

The overriding aim of all educational programmes is to raise the self-esteem of all the young people at Vinney Green by providing them with as many opportunities to experience success as possible. Generally, the programmes offered are driven by the National Curriculum with young people being encouraged to pursue accreditation at examination level, especially in 'core subject' areas. Vinney Green is a registered examination centre for GCSE's and other accredited qualifications.

As widely as possible, a broad and balanced curriculum is offered with an emphasis on basic Literacy and Numeracy skills. During the educational day the young people can experience English, Maths, Science, ICT, Art, Food Tech and a wide variety of Physical Education activities and lessons. Young people are allocated a personal tutor with whom they meet daily (during school terms). The tutor also works closely with the keyworker.

The Unit employs Vocational Instructors to work with the young people during the learning day in our Vocational Centres where young people are given the opportunity to learn new skills that may enhance their knowledge/understanding, and ultimately prospects of employment.

These skills would include: bricklaying, plastering, roofing, plumbing, electrical circuits, car mechanics, car body work/spraying, carpentry, basic DIY skills, horticulture, animal care skills and health and beauty.

12. Vinney Green is registered with the Department for Education.

13. **Enjoyment and Achievement**

Vinney Green's sporting facilities includes the following - Playing field (Astro), Tennis courts, Gym, fitness room and outdoor exercise equipment. These areas are used both during the school day as part of education, as well as in the evenings and weekends.

Each young person participates in enriched activities as per the YCS specification in addition to non-enriched supervised activities. Enriched activities would include all forms of sporting activities, arts and crafts, cooking, health and beauty, board games with an emphasis on numeracy and literacy skills, Music

Health

14. **Health care provided**

- a. The health services at Vinney Green are commissioned by NHS England. They are responsible for medical governance and the professional qualifications of staff providing healthcare or therapy. Contracts have been commissioned by NHS England with Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership (AWP) on a 5 year contract.
- b. Each young person will be given a medical examination within 1 – 2 hours of admission when possible. This is to ensure that the person is in good health or that any medical problems are treated and any necessary medication is prescribed. There is a nurse who attends the unit daily Monday – Friday and an on call system weekday evenings. The nurse advises young people and staff caring for them about health related matters.
All young people are temporary registered at the local health centre where there is a doctor on call for emergencies, and who attends the Unit on a weekly basis.

The Mental Health aspects of the young person's care are addressed by a multi-disciplinary team which includes psychiatry, psychology, a registered mental health nurse (non-medical prescriber), health care assistants and substance misuse worker. Their work is focused upon the mental and emotional wellbeing of the young people residing in the home. The team use appropriate standardised assessment tools in order to support case management and assessment of intervention outcomes within the home. We also provide a full programme of trauma informed intervention and consultancy, which includes stabilisation, psycho education and general support. This work is evidence based and sits within the concept of SECURE STAIRS. There are regular meetings with NHS England Managers and lead professionals to assess the effectiveness of the Health Care provision.

Positive Relationships

15. Promoting Contact

Frequent contact with parents and other significant people in the lives of the young people is actively encouraged by the Secure Unit. Regular visits are considered to be in the best interests of the young person and can be agreed with 24 hours notice. As far as possible, visits should not interfere with the daily routine of education and other activities.

All young people have an allowance and access to telephones in their rooms and are encouraged to contact family and friends by telephone and letter.

For parents/people who have parental responsibility for a child serving a Detention and Training Order/Section or 90/91 Sentence, the Youth Custody Service will help with the cost for them and the young person's siblings to visit them. Vinney Green runs an assisted visit scheme (details of this are held in reception) whereby they can book train travel or can be reimbursed for fuel used if driving.

FOR SECURITY PURPOSES ALL VISITORS TO THE UNIT WILL BE REQUIRED TO PRODUCE FORMAL IDENTIFICATION AND WILL BE PHOTOGRAPHED AT THE POINT OF ENTRY.

Protection of children

16. Surveillance & monitoring of children

The centre has many technical security features to ensure its safe operation for both staff and young people, but wherever possible these have been designed in an unobtrusive and discreet manner. CCTV surveillance is used in all communal and outside areas. These include visitor rooms, corridors, conference facilities, activity rooms and classrooms.

Group sizes are small and young people are always supervised unless they are in the toilet or bedroom. When in their bedroom they are checked at least every 15 minutes.

17. Behaviour Support

- a. In order to prevent self-harm or injury to others, restrictive physical intervention may at times be necessary. However, this is always used as a last resort. All staff are trained and regularly refreshed in the use of restrictive physical intervention techniques. The unit regularly reviews its Restraint Minimisation Strategy.

Young people can only be restrained for the purpose of

- a) Preventing injury to any person (including the child who is being restrained)
 - b) Preventing serious damage to the property of any person (including the child who is being restrained)
 - c) Preventing the child from absconding
- b. Staff are trained, refreshed and assessed by certified General Service's Tutors, who have passed as competent to train staff.

Leadership and management

18. Names and addresses

- a. The registered provider is South Gloucestershire Council's Department for Children, Adults and Health.
- b. The responsible individual is Chris Sivers, Director of the Department for Children, Adults and Health.

Postal address –Council Offices, Badminton Rd, Yate, Bristol BS37 5AF

- c. The Registered Manager is **Alison Sykes**.

E-mail Alison.Sykes@southglos.gov.uk

Vinney Green Secure Unit
Emersons Green Lane
Emersons Green
Bristol
BS16 7AA

Tel 0117 9702286 Fax 0117 9702326

E-mail Vinneygreensecureunit@southglos.gov.uk

19. Experience and Qualifications of Staff

The Vinney Green care staff group is made up of experienced practitioners, all of whom are either qualified or working towards a nationally recognised award. Within 18 months of working at Vinney Green Secure Unit all care staff will have achieved the Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care. Staff are representative of the gender and ethnicity of the young people to whom they provide a service. There are approximately 65 members of care staff, 15 teaching staff, supplemented on occasion by Vinney Green's own casual bank of staff. In addition to this, there are 25 support staff. Vinney Green does not use agency staff, and all employees are subject to the same rigorous recruitment checks, regardless of type of role, or length of contract. Vinney Green's organisational structure is attached.

20. **Staff Structure and Supervision of Staff**

All staff receive monthly supervision, with new employees receiving this fortnightly. Employees also receive annual Personal Development and Performance Review appraisals, and are given full support for attending training courses, or gaining further knowledge and qualifications. The unit has its own training strategy and all staff receive a copy of this upon induction. All staff receive mandatory training in Restrictive Physical Intervention, Safeguarding, Managing Violence and Aggression Techniques, Health and Safety, Legislation, Fire and Security procedures and Diversity and Equality. At any one time, 80% of Vinney Green Unit care staff have at least 12 months' experience.

The care staff group has a wide range of expertise in working with vulnerable young people. All young people, on admission, will be allocated a 'keyworker' in order to ensure that the process of induction and assessment begins immediately. Well established procedures are in place to ensure that the young people, their families and carers are supported, reassured and helped to settle. Professional liaison with Social Workers, Youth Offending practitioners and other specialists, are commenced immediately and an initial placement review will take place within five or ten working days depending on their admission route.

The education team comprises of a mix of qualified Teachers, Instructors and Vocational Instructors. Each young person will be allocated a 'personal tutor' and will receive a full balanced curriculum. On admission, all young people will be placed in the Induction group whose purpose is to make a full assessment of their educational needs and draw up a comprehensive educational plan to assist the young person to achieve their full potential.

Health care staff are commissioned by NHS England who are responsible for clinical governance at the unit. Staff are suitably qualified to carry out their functions.

An up to date list is kept at the Secure Unit of all staff, their experience and relevant qualifications. If you would like to see this, a manager would be happy to share this with you

All Staffing figures equate to the permissible minimum (based on 24 young people being resident)

Daytime arrangements

- ★ Number of Care Staff from 7.30am – 2.00pm = 9
- ★ Number of Care Staff from 2.00pm – 10.00pm = 10
- ★ There will be a Duty Manager from 7.30am – 10.00pm
- ★ Vocational Instructors
- ★ Resettlement Officer (Monday to Friday)

Night time arrangements

- ★ Between 10.00pm – 7.30am = 5 Night Care officers + 1 Senior Care Staff sleeping in

Educational Staff

- ★ Educational staff will operate for 50 weeks per annum from 8.45am – 3.30pm (Monday - Friday)

Support Staff

- ★ Resources Team – 6 members of staff between 8.30am – 5.00pm and 1 member of staff between 5.00pm to 5.30pm (Monday - Friday), 1 member of staff 10.15am – 3.15pm (Saturday and Sunday)
- ★ Catering Staff = 2 members of staff between 8.00am – 6.00pm

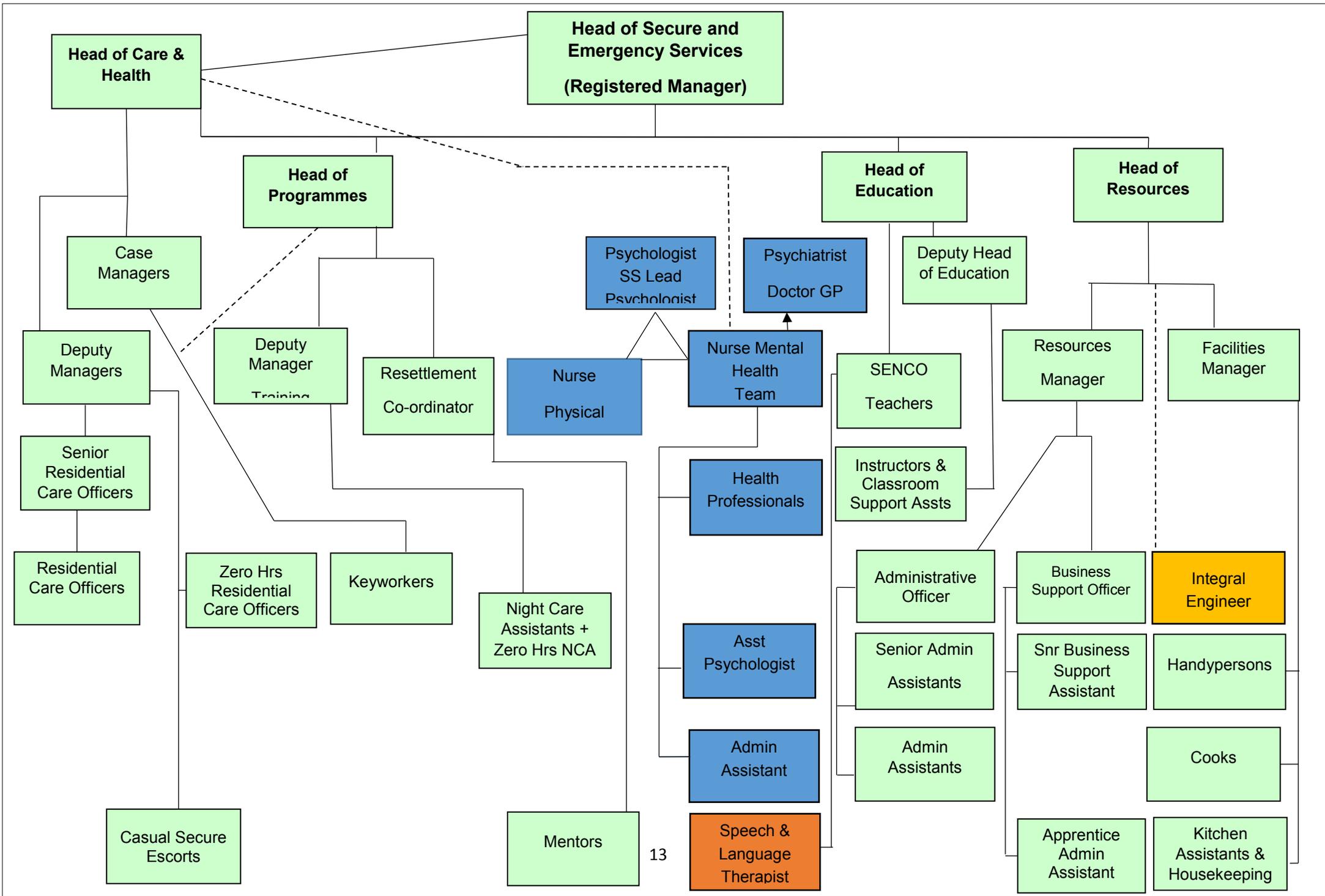
- ★ Housekeeping Staff = 2 members of staff between 8.30am – 8.00pm (Monday - Friday)
- ★ Maintenance staff = at least 1 member of staff between 8.30am – 5.00pm (Monday - Friday)

Health Care Staff

- ★ GP one surgery per week
- ★ Nurse Practitioner - 5 days per week
- ★ Consultant Psychiatrist - ½ day per 2 weeks
- ★ Principal Clinical Psychologist - 5 days per week
- ★ Assistant Psychologist - 5 days per week
- ★ Substance Misuse Worker- 2 days per week
- ★ Registered Mental Health Nurse (non-medical prescriber) - 5 days per week
- ★ Health Care Assistants (2 members of staff) - 5 days per week

Emergency Staff

- ★ 24 hour on call Head of Secure & Emergency Services or Senior Care Manager
- ★ 24 hour on call health team
- ★ 24 hour on call engineer
- ★ 24 hour on call contractors



21. Role Models

Care is taken to maintain a representative ethnic and gender balance within the staff group; critical to ensuring all young people feel safe.

Care Planning

22. Criteria for Admission

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Young people subject to a recall for breach of Licence conditions whilst serving the community part of a Detention and Training Order under Sections 104 or 105 of the Powers of the Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000.

Young people sentenced through the crown court for grave and serious crimes under Section 90 or 91 of the Powers of the Criminal Courts Act (Sentencing) 2000.

Young people subject to overnight transfer arrangements under the relevant sections of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE) 1984.

The YCS may under certain circumstances permit Local Authority Children's Services to spot purchase a vacant bed at the unit to enable the Local Authority to place a young person on welfare grounds under Section 25 of the Children Act (1989). Local Authorities wishing to place a young person below the age of 13 must also seek permission from the Secretary of State at the DfE prior to the placement.

Who makes the referral?

Referral and placement of young people is managed under operational arrangements with the Youth Custody Service placement team. When a young person is admitted under a Welfare Order the referral is made via the Welfare Unit.

Emergency Admissions

The Unit is able to admit children and young people at any time of the day or night.