



Statement of Purpose For:
Borradaile House, College View, Pier View, Ashington
Gardens & Telscombe Road

Contact Details

Provider Details	
Name of Service Provider	Ambitious About Autism
CQC provider ID	1-242062204 (current)
Legal Status	Organisation
Business address	The Pears National Centre for Autism Education Woodside Avenue London N10 3JA
Email Contact	lhoneysett@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk

Introduction

Ambitious About Autism aims for the highest standards in care. This statement of purpose is an acknowledgement by the Provider and Managers of the charity's responsibilities to provide a warm, homely, caring and supportive environment to people with learning disabilities aged 19 and over, who attend St John's College for their educational placement (referred to as young adults). We will be working to CQC required standards. It is our intention to meet and exceed these requirements. We will be responsible to the Care Quality Commission as well as our own in-house Quality Assurance procedures.

Context

Ambitious about Autism was founded in 1997 by a group of parents determined to improve education opportunities for their children. This pioneering spirit has remained at the heart of our organisation as we have evolved and progressed. We believe all autistic young people have a right to the best education that meets their needs and enables them to learn, thrive and achieve.

The Ambitious Approach is our model of education practice used across our education settings to support autistic children and young people. We have a clear vision of what we want our education settings to achieve. We want to prepare children and young people for a happy and fulfilling life and, whilst doing so, afford them dignity, respect, and compassion. At its heart, the approach is centred around improving the quality of life of autistic young people while they are in education and ensuring this quality of life continues into adulthood. When pupils and learners leave our settings, we want them to find employment, go on to further education or training, and live fully as part of the communities of their choice.

We are constantly developing, searching for and open to new approaches that are ethical and have a robust evidence base. We share our experience and evidence with others to enhance knowledge and expertise in the field of autism education.

As a part of our growth strategy, Ambitious About Autism will be acquiring the business operations of St John's School and College, Brighton on 1st September 2023. At the date of the transfer of St John's assets, responsibility for managing these residential facilities will transfer to Ambitious About Autism.

The objective for Ambitious About Autism will be to deliver a high quality, tailored residential provision to the learners of school and college, informed by the Ambitious Approach and the organisational values. The needs of the residents will continue to be addressed through a robust and well-tested resourcing model. Monitoring and evaluation of the residential provision will be undertaken on a rolling basis, informed by best practice and sector expertise.

Aims and Objectives

- To provide a structured yet challenging environment, in which people are presented with opportunities to improve upon practical and social skills for living.
- To deliver high quality care using Individual Support Plans.
- To maintain full, ongoing consultation with each young adult including the preparation of support plans and assessments.
- To offer and encourage a range of activities, to help increase personal responsibility, self-confidence and self esteem.
- To respect the dignity and privacy of individuals always.
- Young adults will be encouraged to become as self sufficient as is appropriate for them.
- To provide individual support in a friendly, caring and open manner to create an environment of trust, inclusion, positivity and respect.
- To meet the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of all young adults, through offering choice and promoting independence.

- Young adults will be encouraged to take a full and active part in decisions about daily living arrangements which will affect them.
- Young adults will be encouraged to socialise within the local community.
- Contact with relatives and friends will be promoted.

Locations

Location Details	
Name of location	Borradaile House
Address	13 Walpole Road Brighton East Sussex BN2 0AF
Telephone	01273 673103
Email	Pamela.smith@st-johns.co.uk

Description of the location	
<p>Borradaile House is situated on the outskirts of the main College site in Walpole Road, 5 minutes' walk away from the local amenities of Kemptown, which provides shops, bars and restaurants.</p> <p>There is a good bus route into the City Centre, Brighton railway station and Brighton Marina Village.</p> <p>It has 6 bedrooms all of which have en-suite shower rooms and toilets. The house offers a good-sized communal kitchen diner, laundry, lounge, staff office and a quiet study room. The 6 bedrooms all have an en-suite wet room with shower, toilet and basin. Borradaile also offers a 2-bedroom self-contained flat. This again offers a stepping stone into semi-independent living. The flat has its own lounge & kitchen diner & bathroom. Borradaile also has a sensory shed in the garden for all young adults to access.</p>	
No of approved places	8

Service information	
Service user bands	Caring for adults under 65 yrs. Learning disabilities
Service types provided	Care home service without nursing (CHS) Specialist college service (SPC)
Regulated Activity	Accommodation for persons who require nursing or personal care
Terms of registration	The registered provider must not provide nursing care under accommodation for persons who require personal or nursing care at Borradaile House
Registered Manager	Pamela Smith

Location Details	
Name of location	College View
Address	13a Walpole Road Brighton East Sussex BN2 0AB
Telephone	01273 695406
Email	Christina.brown@st-johns.co.uk

Description of the location	
(The premises and the area around them, access, adaptations, equipment, facilities, suitability for relevant special needs, staffing & qualifications etc)	
<p>College View is situated on the outskirts of the main College site in Walpole Road, 5 minutes' walk away from the local amenities of Kemptown, which provides shops, bars and restaurants. There is a good bus route into the City Centre, Brighton railway station and Brighton Marina Village.</p> <p>College View has 10 bedrooms, one of which will be an assessment room. 8 bedrooms are on the first floor and 2 are on the ground floor. Currently this area has been converted into a bedroom, living area and bathroom to offer a semi self-contained environment. There are 2 bathrooms and 3 shower rooms within the house, none of which are en-suite. It offers a large kitchen diner, computer room, a laundry room, sensory space and a large lounge. Currently College View is home to 6 young adults.</p>	
No of approved places	6

Service information	
Service user bands	Caring for adults under 65 yrs. Learning disabilities
Service types provided	Specialist college service (SPC) Care home service without nursing (CHS)
Regulated Activity	Accommodation for persons who require nursing or personal care
Terms of registration	The registered provider must not provide nursing care under accommodation for persons who require personal or nursing care at College View
Registered Manager	Christina Brown

Location Details	
Name of location	Pier View House
Address	St John's School & College 17 Walpole Road Brighton BN2 0AF
Telephone	01273 677451
Email	Lia.timmins@st-johns.co.uk

Description of the location (The premises and the area around them, access, adaptations, equipment, facilities, suitability for relevant special needs, staffing & qualifications etc)	
Pier View House is situated on the outskirts of the main College site in Walpole Road, 5 minutes' walk away from the local amenities of Kemptown, which provides shops, bars and restaurants. There is a good bus route into the City Centre, Brighton railway station and Brighton Marina Village. It has 4 bedrooms, 1 of which is en-suite. The other 3 young adults share a bathroom. The house offers a good-sized kitchen, dining room and lounge. There is a separate laundry room and an additional communal area.	
No of approved places	4

Service information	
Service user bands	Learning disabilities Caring for adults under 65 yrs.
Service types provided	Care home service without nursing (CHS) Specialist college service (SPC)
Regulated Activity	Accommodation for persons who require nursing or personal care
Terms of registration	The registered provider must not provide nursing care under accommodation for persons who require personal or nursing care at Pier View House
Registered Manager	Natalia Timmins

Location Details	
Name of location	Ashington Gardens
Address	73 Ashington Gardens Peacehaven East Sussex BN10 8UG
Telephone	01273 244000
Email	Heather.Wells@st-johns.co.uk

Description of the location	
(The premises and the area around them, access, adaptations, equipment, facilities, suitability for relevant special needs, staffing & qualifications etc)	
<p>Ashington Gardens is situated a 2 minute walk away from the main South Coast Road, meaning quick and easy access to community facilities, such as shops, cafés, restaurants and bars. There are good bus links to the main college site, Brighton, Seaford and Eastbourne. The house is also a short walk away from the south downs, ideal for walks, picnics and outdoor games. The beach is also accessible via a 5 minute walk.</p> <p>The house is a good sized, recently refurbished 6 bedroom house with a large garden All bedrooms have an ensuite.</p>	
No of approved places	6

Service information	
Service user bands	Learning disabilities Caring for adults under 65 yrs.
Service types provided	Care home service without nursing (CHS) Specialist college service (SPC)
Regulated Activity	Accommodation for persons who require nursing or personal care
Terms of registration	The registered provider must not provide nursing care under accommodation for persons who require personal or nursing care at Pier View House
Registered Manager	Heather Wells

Location Details	
Name of location	Telscombe Road
Address	66A Telscombe Road Peachaven East Sussex BN10 7UB
Telephone	01273 244000
Email	Heather.wells@st-johns.co.uk

Description of the location (The premises and the area around them, access, adaptations, equipment, facilities, suitability for relevant special needs, staffing & qualifications etc)	
<p>Telscombe Road has capacity for 6 young people. This is a large property based in Peacehaven. This property is close to local shops and amenities as well being a stones throw from the South downs and wide open spaces ideal for walks, picnics and outdoor games. The beach is also accessible either via a short drive or a walk.</p> <p>Peacehaven offers many café's, shops, pubs and restaurants, a trampoline park.</p> <p>Telscombe Road is also ideally situated with regard to bus routes for all areas of Brighton, Seaford, Eastbourne, the main college campus and other residential houses.</p> <p>The house offers a kitchen diner, a communal lounge and a back garden, ideal for BBQ's and socialising. There are 6 good sized bedrooms, all with en-suite facilities. There is a separate laundry room and staff office.</p>	
No of approved places	6

Service information	
Service user bands	Learning disabilities Caring for adults under 65 yrs.
Service types provided	Care home service without nursing (CHS) Specialist college service (SPC)
Regulated Activity	Accommodation for persons who require nursing or personal care
Terms of registration	The registered provider must not provide nursing care under accommodation for persons who require personal or nursing care at Pier View House
Registered Manager	Heather Wells

Young adults

The needs of all of our resident young adults range from those who require assistance to carry out basic daily tasks, such as washing and dressing to those who are totally independent and require staff to continue to support them with regard to their behaviour and the more taxing tasks such as budgeting and the essential skills needed for independent living.

All resident young adults must be on roll and receiving education through Ambitious About Autism.

All young adults are encouraged to personalise their rooms with pictures/posters and personal belongings and where necessary are supported in doing this. All young adults can use the College grounds and facilities for enrichment activities.

Group Living

Living in a group situation enables the young adults to learn respect, patience and understanding with and for those around them. Encouraging group work, it promotes individuals to become more sociable and learn appropriate socially acceptable behaviour. It also gives a sense of community and a feeling of security, trust and belonging which can often be missing in their life.

Many of the adverse affects from living in a large group situation are counteracted by the key working system which provides the young adults with a nominated advocate who will always listen and act upon any issues which individuals may have. The staffing levels are such that the ratio between staff and Young adults provides opportunities for one to one work and these are further supported by a Manager who provides extra support.

Some of the young adults at times may present with challenging behaviour that may result in the harm of themselves or others. Staff are trained in positive handling techniques. This involves the use of de-escalation techniques as well safe holding. Physical interventions are used as a last resort and only when people are in danger and therefore the frequency of this is minimal.

Where appropriate young adults will have a behaviour support plan to enable behaviours of distress to be managed in an appropriate, proactive and positive manner.

Health Care

Ambitious About Autism has a team of registered nurses and health care assistants who will work collaboratively with residential staff to ensure all health needs of individuals are met.

Young adults can be registered with a local doctor and dentist and supported to engage with other specialist health care professions as required.

Ambitious About Autism also offers a range of therapeutic services which include speech and language therapy, occupational therapy and counselling. These will also be able to be accessed if required by young adults. All nursing

and therapeutic input will be overseen by the clinical leads of each therapeutic discipline.

Social Activities & Religion

Young adults will be supported and encouraged to take part a range of activities both within and outside of the home. Within the home, young adults will be encouraged to take an active role in household tasks such as meal preparation, cleaning, laundry, budgeting and gardening. Other in-house activities may also include, film nights, using internet and playing games consoles. The interests and requests of individuals will be considered, and activities arranged around these.

Individuals will also be encouraged to use community-based facilities such as swimming pools, cinemas, leisure centres, libraries, and social clubs. Again, if a service user has an interest in a community-based activity all efforts are made to assist them in achieving this.

The individual religious beliefs of young adults are always respected and if required support is offered to enable them to attend religious services of their choice.

Consultation

Young adults are consulted about matters concerning the operation of the home. This is done through regular house meetings. These give everyone a chance to say how they are feeling, offer suggestions on how things can be changed or improved, plan menus, plan activities and discuss any issues which they may have. Key worker sessions also enable individuals to discuss concerns on a 1:1 basis. The views of the young adults are always listened to and where possible acted upon. In addition to this there are regular learner voice events which is an opportunity for young adults to have their say about Ambitious About Autism, what is good about it and what can be done to improve it. Surveys are also undertaken to gain the views of all stakeholders.

Contact

Young adults are encouraged and supported to maintain contact with relatives, friends and significant others at a level that is appropriate to the individual. Each house has a phone which young adults can use to maintain this contact. Other forms of communication will also be used if appropriate and young adults will be encouraged and supported to remember birthdays, Christmas and other special occasions.

Visitors to College View, Borradaile, Pier View House, Ashington Gardens & Telscombe Road are always welcome and space for meetings can be provided. Young adults can have friends visit the home and are made welcome; however, consideration for other young adults is also expected. (see visitors' policy) Each person's key worker will also keep in regular contact with significant others to ensure a holistic approach.

Complaints

Complaints are always taken seriously and acted upon. Ambitious About Autism has a complaints policy; an easy- read copy of this is available to all young adults and family members.

The procedure for complaints from young adults is displayed in the houses in both written form and symbols for those who are unable to read the written word. Keyworkers are aware of the procedure for dealing with complaints and support young adults to understand and use the procedure.

Each individual has a Keyworker to whom they should be able to turn to should they have any concerns or worries about their life in any of the residential houses or at College. Any young adult with a complaint against another student, member of staff or a complaint on behalf of another student has access to the Care Manager or Head of Learner Services. Complaints can be made in writing or directly through the Keyworker, Care Manager or Head of Learner Services. If the complaint needs to be taken further then the Head of Learner Services or Care Manager will discuss the circumstances with the Principal and appropriate action will be agreed. If a complaint involves an allegation of abuse the college policy for the Safeguarding of Adults at Risk will be invoked.

Relatives & significant others can also complain to all the above people and the issue will be dealt with in the same way.

All complaints are taken seriously, and a log of all complaints received is kept along with the steps taken to resolve the complaint.

Alternatively, a complaint can be made directly to the CQC. The address and telephone number can be found alongside the other contact numbers on the complaint's procedures displayed in the home.

Fire Precautions & Procedures

When an outbreak of fire occurs or is seen staff should sound the alarm, evacuate the building and summons the fire brigade. All young adults and employees should assemble at the designated meeting point where a role call will be carried out.

Regular fire drills take place to ensure that everybody is aware of the procedures to follow. The drills enable staff to predict where they may be issues with young adults evacuating. If any concerns are identified, then an individual PEEP (Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan) is put into place and all staff are made aware of the procedures and plans for each learner.

All staff at Ambitious About Autism are expected to carry out regular risk assessments which include maintenance and safety checks on all college buildings, regular checks that first aid boxes and any other emergency aids and equipment are in full working order. Staff are taken through the procedure during their induction programme and on-going training.

Weekly bell tests are also carried out to ensure that alarms and other associated equipment is in full working order.

Privacy & Dignity

Each young adult has the right of access to his or her room free from noise, interference, disturbance and harassment. Every reasonable effort will be made so that the rights of privacy, peace & quiet and discipline are adequate to

provide, reflection, safety & sleep. Ambitious About Autism seeks to ensure the privacy of each individual. Therefore, no room should be entered without first knocking and seeking approval – unless the risk to safety of other young adults, staff or the individual is deemed to be significant if staff do not enter the room.

- All young adults always have the right to be treated with dignity
- All young adults will have their modesty protected.
- All young adults will be encouraged and supported to remain autonomous and as independent as possible.

Staffing

An enthusiastic team of Residential Support Workers (RSW), who hold, or are working towards N.V.Q.s/Diploma in Health & Social Care work with the Managers to provide a safe but stimulating environment.

The whole team share the responsibility for working with the young adults in meal preparation, handling money, shopping, banking and budgeting. There is a strong focus on developing and increasing the skills required for daily living and independence, this aspect of the service delivery is also known as the Waking Day Curriculum.

Staffing numbers reflect the individual assessed needs of the young adults within in each house.

Staff Development

Ambitious About Autism is committed to the professional development of all staff, irrespective of their roles and responsibilities. It is the intention of the organisation to provide opportunities for all staff to develop their own interests and expertise as they relate to the needs of the organisation.

Ambitious About Autism intends to raise standards and pursue improvement by seeking to accredit all employees through work related training and is committed to providing appropriate training as dictated by role and responsibility.

Training strategies will include:

- Courses relating directly to the Development Plan.
- Courses that will directly contribute to the raising of standards.
- Opportunities for any course participant to disseminate information to colleagues on return.
- Training for individuals on and off site, including visits, courses and work shadowing.
- Training is targeted to ensure that all staff are qualified to undertake their role and responsibilities.
- All newly appointed staff will undertake to receive an induction programme suited to their individual needs and the needs of their position. This will

include:

1. Awareness of policies and operational practice.
2. Appointment of a staff mentor.
3. Initial feedback on performance and access to an on-going process of
4. Appraisal and Performance Review.
5. The organisation has a framework for the appraisal of staff. The process for the management of appraisal is the responsibility of the Care Manager, who will have regard for the following issues:
6. Confidentiality
7. Statutory frameworks
8. Professional associations
9. All Staff will receive awareness raising opportunities before they embark upon the appraisal or Performance Review process.

1:1 Management Support & Review

All RSWs receive 1:1 Support and Review from a more senior member of the care team at least once per half term. New staff will receive one of these sessions from their mentor and one from a senior member of staff, therefore at least once a fortnight until their probationary review at which time the frequency of their ongoing 1:1 Support & Review meetings will be discussed and planned.

These meetings will be used will be used to address any issues relating to performance, feelings, concerns, role and responsibilities, and the fulfilment of the Statement of Purpose. The RSW will also receive constructive feedback on performance along with an opportunity to discuss training needs.

If staff feel unable to discuss any concerns with their supervisor or have any urgent issues, there will always be a senior member of staff on duty, who is willing to give time to listen and support any RSW.

There is a strong focus on Staff wellbeing with a number of internal and external support options available to staff such as; occupational health, wellbeing coach and an Employee Assistance Programme. Ambitious About Autism follows the PERMA model for staff wellbeing and works closely with a team of positive psychologists to promote self-care, self-awareness and a solution focused approach.

Safeguarding

Ambitious About Autism employs a Safeguarding Policy which was written in accordance with the Pan Sussex procedures for Safeguarding Adults at Risk. Every member of staff has access to a copy of the policy and through induction and ongoing training, is made aware of the protocol and procedures to follow, should they suspect that a learner is suffering or at risk of any kind of abuse. The well-being of the service

user is the paramount consideration in all protection and safeguarding work.

Ambitious About Autism Safeguarding Team Membership:

Safeguarding Manager

Head of Safeguarding and Education Compliance

Head of Learner Services

Executive Principal

Director of Education

Head of Learning x 2

Care Managers x 4

Lead Nurse

Vice Principal

Autism Lead

Positive Behaviour Support & Physical Intervention

The promotion of positive behaviour involves more than taking measures to reduce the incidence of behaviours of distress. The ethos of Ambitious About Autism promotes a view that support should be based on mutual respect and the maintenance of good personal and professional relationships between all those who are part of the organisation.

All staff are trained in Maybo which is a BILD ACT (British Institute of Learning Disabilities Association of Certified Training) accredited approach to effectively support people whose behaviours may challenge. The BILD ACT accreditation certifies that the content of the Maybo training complies with the Restraint Reduction Network Training Standards. Much of the Maybo training centres on proactive or primary prevention strategies and tertiary or secondary prevention strategies. It also includes reactive strategies and the appropriate handling of physical restraint. Any physical interventions used are those taught by Maybo and that have been risk assessed.

Following the transfer of the provision to Ambitious about Autism a review of practices will be undertaken, transitioning to the Ambitious Approach, where Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) is embedded. Ambitious About Autism's belief is that the right support should always be used at the right time. Staff will all have met the criteria to carry out any physical interventions safely and effectively, through correct training processes and ongoing assessment.

It is important that Ambitious About Autism does not focus on behaviours of distress and indeed, many young adults will respond positively to the consistent and caring structures and relationships offered by Ambitious About Autism.

Equality & Diversity

Ambitious About Autism is committed to ensuring we offer a safe and secure environment for all its Young adults and staff. We are determined that Ambitious About Autism will be a place where all people, regardless of gender, gender identity, ability, social, cultural, or ethnic background can flourish.

In order to make this intention a reality it is necessary to have a policy that is actively promoted throughout the organisation. The aims of the Equity & Diversity Policy are:
To enable staff to appreciate how factors such as ethnicity, social factors and special needs may affect access to and participation in teaching and learning

To ensure that all Young adults have a living environment that is free from bullying,

harassment or intimidation from others.

Ambitious About Autism School & College is a registered charity (1063184) and a company limited by guarantee (03375255)

Review information April 2023

Review Completed by Head of Learner Services

Type of change	Actual Change	Where in document
Remove location	Cornerways - De-register by August 2023	Location details section
Replace organisation name	St Johns changed to Ambitious about Autism	Throughout
Add Members	Head of Safeguarding and Education Compliance and Director of Education added to Safeguarding Team Members	List of Safeguarding Team Membership
Change in approved places	College View – approved places changed from 10 to 6	College View Location details section

Review Information July 2022

Review completed by Head of Learner Services

Type of change	Actual Change	Where in document
Remove Location	Framfield	Location Details section
Manager Details	Pam Smith removed, Heather Wells (in progress added)	Telscombe Road Location Details section
Manager Details	Christina Brown removed, Heather Wells (in progress) added	Ashington Gardens Location Details section
Manager Details	Natalia Timmins removed, Christina Brown added	Cornerways View Location Details section

Review Information – July 2021

Review completed by Head of Learner Services

Type of change	Actual Change	Where in document
Add location	Telscombe Road	Location Details section
Remove Location	Preston Road	Location Details section
Manager Details	Simon Phillips removed, Natalia Timmins added	Cornerways Location Details section

Manager Details	Simon Phillips removed, Christina Brown (in process) added	Preston Drove Location Details section
Manager Details	Fiona Coutts removed, Christina Brown added	College View Location Details section
Add Location	Ashington Gardens	Location Details section
Remove Location	Preston Drove	Location Details Section

Review information – September 2021

Review completed by Head of Learner Services & Registered Managers

Type of change	Actual Change	Where in document
Manager Details	Removed (in process)	College View Location Details section
Manager Details	Removed (in process)	Ashington Gardens Location Details section
Added Information	Added in Health Care assistants to Nursing Team	Health Care section
Change of terminology	Changed annual learner voice event to regular learner voice events	Consultation section
Added information	Added paragraph about staff wellbeing	1:1 Management Support & Review section
Change of terminology	Included information about BILD ACT & RNN training standard	Positive Behaviour Support & physical Intervention Section
Change of terminology	Changed policy school & college to organisation	Equality & Diversity section