



BEDFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Sunflower House

Short Breaks for Children
with Disabilities



Introduction

Welcome to Sunflower House

Sunflower House is a specialist children's respite home, registered with Ofsted. It has five beds for short breaks for children aged between 7 and 18 years, We can offer longer stays if an assessed need is recognized.

Sunflower House is a purpose built bungalow in Putnoe, Bedford. Our staff team cater for a wide range of care, medical and dietary needs and are fully trained in all these areas.

The reasons you may need your child to come to Sunflower House are:

- To encourage independence;
- Give children the opportunity to experience time away from home in an equipped bungalow with friends;
- To give parents and carers a rest.

Visits by relatives and friends are more than welcome if you let us know when you are planning a visit.



Our Aims

“ Our aim is to maintain dignity and privacy of all our children. Each child is treated as an individual ”

“ To be listened to and understood ”

“ To be kept safe and not be exposed to unnecessary risks ”

“ To have fun and enjoy new experiences ”

Sunflower House Training Day 2024 Sunflower House Philosophy

Information about Sunflower House



All referrals to us are made via a social worker who will work with the family to carry out an assessment of need. The process to agree a package of care is via the Allocation Resource Panel (ARP). Initially families are invited to look around prior to making a decision about whether to use the service.

The Bungalow offers 5 bedrooms, which are all colourfully themed. We also have a lounge / dining room, kitchen, conservatory, bathroom and toilet facilities, laundry room and large garden area.

We have intercom systems in all the bedrooms to monitor the children at night as well as an emergency call system.

We also have our own wheelchair accessible mini bus which we use for outings.

We have specialist moving and handling equipment which can be used throughout the home.

Children's requests are included in decisions about where to go or what to do for leisure activities at the weekend or in the school holidays. Some of the leisure activities children and young people like to do whilst at Sunflower House include cinema, bowling, shopping, eating out, picnics, walks and visits to the beach and barge trips.

We also have a wide selection of books, games, crafts, toys, Nintendo Switch and Xbox 360 and games, and sensory toys.



Quotes from children and parents

“Fantastic friendly, caring staff, great facilities for children with disabilities”

Taken from questionnaire January 2024

“Very flexible and our child is happy staying here”

Taken from questionnaire January 2024

Reasons why children like coming to Sunflower House

“Good food!”

“Making new friends”

“At Sunflower House I can be independent and spend my pocket money”

“I can have a bath. At home I have to have a shower”

“I enjoy chilling out”

“I like going on trips out”

Exerts From Children's Voice Group 2024

We also have an advocate from the National Youth Advocacy Service (NYAS). The advocate visits regularly to speak to the young people and help them speak up for the things that are important to them. The service gives advice, information, advocacy and legal representation. If you would like more information on NYAS you can visit their website at:



www.nyas.net



0808 808 1001

Finding out more



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Ofsted

Ofsted inspects Sunflower House once a year. This is to ensure that Sunflower House meets National Minimum Standards and the needs of the children and young people who use this service.

To access the latest Ofsted report please either contact:

Ofsted



0300 123 1231



www.ofsted.gov.uk

Our Ofsted reference number is **SC409502**

You can also contact Sunflower House directly as above for more information regarding Ofsted.



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