



Amber Green  
Care

# Statement of Purpose

BERTHA WILLOW CHILDREN'S HOME

Valid from: 18.09.2025

Date of review 16.03.2026

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## **Introduction**

The Statement of Purpose has been prepared in accordance with the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015. It is structured to follow Schedule 1, clearly setting out the benefits for children placed with Amber Green Care. The document outlines the nature of care we provide and the way our services are organised to ensure consistency and quality. It also includes an overview of our facilities, services, and the practices we adopt to ensure that Amber Green Care continuously delivers effective, person-centred support.

## **Overall aims and Objectives of Bertha Willows Children's home**

### **Bertha Willows Children's Home – Statement of Purpose Multifunctional Home: Emotional and Behavioural Disorders (EBD) and Learning Disabilities**

At Amber Green Care, our model is designed to provide a **therapeutic and integrated approach** to supporting children and young people with Emotional and Behavioural Disorders (EBD) and/or Learning disabilities within a residential children's home.

## **Aims of the Service**

The core aims of the service are to:

1. Promote independence.
2. Encourage social inclusion.
3. Build resilience and coping strategies.
4. Support active engagement in community, educational, and vocational activities.

## **Staff Training and Support**

The staff team at Bertha Willows undertake comprehensive training to equip them with the skills needed to manage Emotional behaviour disorder, learning disabilities and Autism effectively. Staff are supported by the Registered Manager and external clinicians, ensuring their practice is guided by therapeutic principles.

Amber Green Care recognises that children may have additional support needs, and bespoke training will be provided to staff to ensure these needs are understood and responded to appropriately.

## **Multi-Agency Collaboration**

Support from multi-agency teams include:

- Monitoring of children's mental health.
- Delivery of a therapeutic, love-led approach.
- Contribution to care planning and review processes.

- Providing advice, consultation, and training to the home's staff team.

Working as part of a multi-agency team ensures interventions are tailored to the individual needs of each child. This approach also strengthens engagement with the wider professional network, ensuring continuity and consistency of care for children at Amber Green Care.

## **Therapeutic Model of Care**

At the heart of our work is a commitment to creating a **Calm, safe and nurturing environment** where children can grow, heal and thrive. We use the therapeutic principles of P. A. C. E; Playfulness, Acceptance, Curiosity and Empathy to guide every interaction and relationship.

**Playfulness** helps build trust and connection, bringing moments of lightness and joy that reduce stress and allow children to feel secure enough to explore new ways of relating and growing in a safe and supportive environment.

**Acceptance** ensures that every child feels valued for who they are, not judged for their feelings, thoughts, or past experiences. We provide a foundation where they know that they are understood and respected.

**Curiosity** encourages reflective parenting and care. By wondering about a child's inner world rather than reacting to the behaviour. We model understanding, patience, and emotional regulation and development.

**Empathy** allows children to feel deeply seen and cared for. By meeting their emotions with warmth and sensitivity, we promote resilience, trust and self-worth.

Through this therapeutic approach, we aim to promote emotional development and healing by helping children feel both physically and emotionally safe. Our reflective parenting style ensure that children experience consistent care that not only meets their daily needs but also foster growth in confidence, self-expression and health relationships

## **Skill Development**

Our aim is to support children to develop essential skills for their personal growth and future independence, including:

- Building and maintaining positive relationships.
- Managing emotions and improving impulse control.
- Developing problem-solving abilities.
- Cultivating self-compassion and self-soothing strategies.

## **Quality and purpose of care**

Bertha Willow is a single occupancy children's home for a child between the ages of 7 to 17. We support children to access appropriate education provisions. Be this mainstream or otherwise up until completion of their GCSE years and beyond into further education. Bertha Willow is a multifunctional children's home where we can support children who have Emotional behavioral disorder (EBD) and associated difficulties, Learning disabilities and Autism. Bertha willow children's home welcomes boys or girls and we maintain a consistent staff team to promote consistency, structure and positive role modeling for the children we support

Bertha Willow Children's Home will not be able to house anyone over the age of 18 years of age

## **Our ethos Philosophy and outcomes for the children and our approach to achieve them**

### **Ethos and Values of Care**

At the heart of Bertha Willows Children's Home is the commitment to **safety, respect, and compassion**. Our primary responsibility is to create an environment where children feel protected, secure, and cared for, while also being empowered to grow, learn, and achieve their potential.

### **Safety and Protection**

Safety underpins every aspect of our practice. We are committed to safeguarding children by:

- Providing a structured and nurturing environment where risks are carefully assessed and managed.
- Ensuring staff are well trained in safeguarding, child protection, and trauma-informed practice.
- Embedding clear routines and boundaries that help children feel secure and supported.

### **Respect and Voice of the Child**

Respect is central to the way we work. We actively listen to children and young people, value their contributions, and ensure their voices are heard in all aspects of their care. This includes:

- Involving children in the development of their care plans.
- Encouraging participation in house meetings and decision-making about daily life.

- Supporting children to express their views, wishes, and feelings confidently and safely.

### **Personalised and Therapeutic Care**

Every child deserves to feel **safe, heard, and understood**. We therefore provide each child with a **personalised care plan**, tailored to their needs, experiences, and aspirations. Our care is:

- **Trauma-informed**: delivered by carers who understand the impact of adverse childhood experiences and the importance of trust and stability.
- **Therapeutic**: built on a love-led approach that promotes emotional healing and resilience.
- **Goal-focused**: supporting progress in education, emotional well-being, relationships, and independence skills.

### **Growth and Development**

We are committed to nurturing the **emotional, educational, and social development** of every child. We achieve this by:

- Supporting access to school, college, or vocational training.
- Encouraging participation in hobbies, leisure, and community activities.
- Teaching life skills such as problem-solving, managing relationships, self-regulation, and self-care.

### **Accountability and Professional Practice**

Amber Green Care operates to the highest standards of accountability and transparency. We ensure this by:

- Adhering to the **Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015** and the **nine Quality Standards**.
- Engaging in regular monitoring and evaluation of the quality of care, including Regulation 44 and 45 reviews.
- Providing staff with regular supervision, professional development, and reflective practice sessions (Gibbs reflective Cycle).

### **Partnership and Collaboration**

We recognise that the best outcomes for children are achieved through effective partnership working. Our staff team works closely with:

- Social workers and local authorities.
- Schools, colleges, and training providers.
- Healthcare professionals.

- Families and significant others in the child's life.

Through strong communication, consistency, and collaboration, we ensure that children benefit from a **coordinated, multi-agency approach** to their care.

### **Description of Bertha Willow Children's home**

**Bertha Willow Children's Home** is a welcoming, two-bedroom terraced house designed to feel like a true home. With a spacious living room and kitchen at its heart, the home provides a warm and comforting environment where children can feel safe, valued, and cared for. A medium-sized garden at the back offers the perfect space for outdoor play, gardening, and joyful activities in the fresh air.

The home is beautifully decorated to a high standard, creating a cosy, homely atmosphere where every child can feel comfortable and at ease. At Bertha Willow, our dedicated staff provide nurturing support, kindness, and consistency, ensuring that every child experiences a safe, loving, and caring environment where they can thrive.

### **Location of Bertha willow children's home**

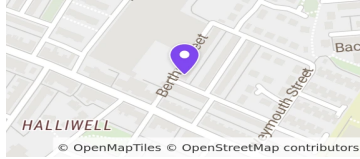
At **Bertha Willow Children's Home**, we are committed to providing a nurturing and safe environment where every child can thrive. We use the **PACE model** (Playfulness, Acceptance, Curiosity, and Empathy) to guide our interactions, encouraging children to explore their interests safely and build positive relationships with staff and peers. By fostering curiosity, we support children in understanding risks and making safe choices both within the home, in the local area, and beyond.

The home is situated in the welcoming **Halliwell area**, just one mile from Bolton town centre. Set on a quiet residential street with stable, friendly neighbours, it benefits from local services and a supportive community. Children have easy access to **green spaces and outdoor activities**, including Rawsthorne Park, Moss Bank Park, and Smithills Open Farm, providing opportunities for play, exploration, and hands-on learning.

Local amenities support everyday life and personal development:

- **Education:** Several primary and secondary schools are within walking distance.
- **Healthcare:** GP services and healthcare facilities are conveniently located nearby.
- **Community and Leisure:** Bolton town centre, Middlebrook Retail Park, and Bolton Market Place offer shopping, entertainment, and cultural experiences, while local sports facilities, including the Jason Kenny Sports Centre, encourage fitness and recreation

- **Transport:** The area is well-connected by public transport, with Bolton Railway Station approximately 1.5 miles away and Hall i' th' Wood Station just over a mile away, providing easy access to the wider region.



The Halliwell area combines a safe, welcoming neighbourhood with a vibrant community and a wealth of local opportunities. Children at Bertha Willow benefit from access to outdoor activities, educational resources, recreational facilities, and cultural experiences, all supported by caring staff who encourage them to explore their interests, develop new skills, and engage with their local community.

### Local Area Safety

The area surrounding Bertha Willow has been assessed as safe and suitable for a children's home. Key data sources include:

- **CheckMyStreet (July 2025):** Within a 250-metre radius of Bertha Street, there were **no recorded crimes** during this period.
- **Police.uk data:** The most commonly reported crime category in the wider area is "violence and sexual offences," though the overall number of offences remains **very low**.
- **StreetScan (BL1 8AH, 2024):** The area was rated as "**very safe**," with 91% of UK streets considered more dangerous by comparison.

### Assessment

The Halliwell location provides children with access to education, healthcare, and leisure opportunities while being in a community that is considered safe and stable. Proximity to Bolton town centre and good transport links ensures that children can engage in wider community and cultural activities while still being supported in a safe residential environment.

### Arrangements for supporting the Cultural, linguistic, and religious needs of the children

Bertha Willow Children's Home places a strong emphasis on **understanding, respecting, and celebrating differences**. We are committed to inclusion and upholding this through effective policies on **equality and diversity, anti-bullying, and special educational needs (SEN)** as required.

We encourage and respect the **cultural, linguistic, and religious diversity** of every child. By recognising and valuing individuality, we aim to promote a strong sense of **identity, belonging, and self-worth**.

## Identifying and Responding to Needs

Early insight into a child's specific needs is gained from a variety of sources, including:

- Information gathered during the referral and admission process.
- Discussions with the child, parents/carers, and the placing of local authority.
- Evidence from early observations, lived experiences, and direct conversations with the child.

This holistic approach ensures that individual needs are identified at the earliest opportunity and incorporated into the child's care plan.

## Linguistic Needs

We recognise and respect each child's **preferred method of communication**, including their accent, dialect, colloquial language, object of reference, PEC's or any additional languages. We are committed to provide appropriate support and resource to the child that promotes effective communication

## Religious and Spiritual Needs

Bertha Willow is a **non-denominational home** that seeks to fully support the **religious and spiritual needs** of children. We accept and value the importance of religious observance and ensure that any child wishing to continue the practice of their chosen faith is **encouraged and supported** to do so.

The Bolton area is home to a **wide range of faith communities**, enabling children to access local places of worship and community groups that reflect their cultural and spiritual identity. Staff work proactively with families and faith leaders to ensure that children are supported in line with their beliefs and practices.

## Complaint's procedure



At Amber Green Care, we take all complaints seriously and deal with them quickly. Every child is given clear information about how to make a complaint in their Children's Guide, and the policy is always available to children, parents, carers, and placing authorities.

## How to Make a Complaint

- Children can speak to any member of staff at any time.
- Complaint forms are always available in the home.
- Children can also contact outside organisations such as Ofsted, NSPCC, Childline, or Barnardo's.

### **Our Assurances**

- All complaints are treated confidentially.
- Complaints will not affect the care or support a child receives.
- No child will ever face consequences for raising concerns.

### **Complaints Process**

1. **Informal** – Staff will try to resolve the issue quickly.
2. **Formal** – If not resolved, a written complaint can be made.
3. **Appeal** – If still not resolved, you can put this in writing to the Director Wahid Petal and the responsible individual Mubin Bux

The Registered Manager oversees the process, and all complaints are recorded in the home's Complaints Log. Records are kept securely and may be reviewed by Ofsted.

### **External Complaints**

Children, parents, carers, or placing authority officers may also raise complaints directly with Ofsted:

#### **Ofsted**

Piccadilly Gate, Store Street, Manchester, M1 2WD

Telephone: **0300 123 1231**

In addition, staff recognise the right of every child to access the **complaints procedure of their placing authority** and will provide full support in helping them do so.

### **Access to Child protection and behaviour management policy**

All **policies and procedures** at Amber Green Care are readily accessible to staff members in both **digital and hard copy formats**. Digital copies are stored on the home's secure Drive, hard copies are maintained in the home's office.

Staff are notified whenever policies are reviewed or updated. Updates are distributed via work email emails, supervisions and team meetings, ensuring that staff acknowledge receipt and confirm that they have read and understood the documents. This process provides clear evidence of staff engagement and compliance with policy updates.

### **Access for External Agencies and Professionals**

Any individual, organisation, or agency involved in the care or protection of a child may request access to the following policies for **Bertha Willow Children's Home**:

- Safeguarding Policy
- Behaviour Management Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Missing from Home Policy
- Complaints Policy

Requests can be made by **contacting the Registered Manager**, who will ensure that relevant policies are provided promptly and in an appropriate format.

### **Views, wishes and feelings**

At Amber Green Care, **children's voices are central** to the way we deliver care. We place a strong emphasis on consultation and actively encourage children to contribute to decisions that affect their daily lives. We believe that when children are involved in decision-making, they feel valued, respected, and listened to, which supports the development of a strong sense of **identity and belonging**.

### **Keyworker System**

Each child is assigned a **dedicated keyworker** who conducts regular one-to-one sessions. These sessions provide a safe and confidential space for children to share their **thoughts, wishes, concerns, or fears**. Through these interactions, keyworkers build **trusting relationships** that promote emotional well-being and personal development.

While keyworkers play a central role, children are encouraged to **approach any member of the staff team** to discuss their needs or concerns. This ensures that children always have someone available to listen and respond, even if their keyworker is not present.

### **Forums for Expression**

Children are supported to express their views through a variety of **forums**, including:

- **Regular house meetings**, providing a structured opportunity to raise ideas, issues, suggestions, or celebrate achievements.

- **Looked After Children (LAC) and Planning meetings**, where their opinions directly contribute to care planning and reviews.

### **Involvement in Home Life**

Children are actively consulted on a range of **operational and domestic matters**, including:

- Menu planning and meal choices.
- Decoration and personalisation of the home and their own bedrooms.
- Planning of activities, holidays, theme days, and other home improvements.

Through these practices, Amber Green Care ensures that children are **actively engaged** in shaping their environment and experiences, promoting empowerment, confidence, and a sense of ownership over their daily lives.

### **Anti-discriminatory practice, Policies and children's rights**

At Amber Green Care, we place a **strong emphasis on the right of every child to live in a safe, caring, and supportive environment**. Both children and staff are encouraged to **recognise, respect, and value individual differences**, particularly in relation to **ethnicity, race, gender, and disability**. Activities, discussions, and everyday interactions are designed to **promote understanding, acceptance, and inclusion**.

### **Assessing and Meeting Individual Needs**

When assessing a child's needs, considerations of **ethnicity, religion, culture, and disability** are thoroughly addressed in their **individual placement plan**. Resources and support are provided both within the home and through the wider community, ensuring that children's needs are met **as fully as practicable**.

### **Access to Advocacy and Independent Support**

Upon admission, children are provided with the **contact details of independent organisations** that promote and safeguard their rights while in care. This ensures children have access to external support and advocacy at any time.

### **Anti-Bullying and Positive Behaviour**

Amber Green Care maintains a **zero-tolerance approach to bullying** of any kind. Any behaviour that could be interpreted as bullying is **immediately challenged**. Interventions are applied not only on an individual basis but also across the home community to reinforce **positive behaviour, respect, and inclusion**.

Through these measures, Amber Green Care ensures that every child can feel **safe, respected, and valued**, supporting their emotional well-being and personal development.

meetings by the staff. Prior to admission, each child is informed of our bullying policy.

## Education

### Arrangements for children to attend local education provisions

At Amber Green Care, **every child has the right to an education** and to access learning opportunities that promote enjoyment, achievement, and personal development. Children are supported to engage in education through **local schools, colleges, training centres, or other educational provisions** that can meet their individual needs.

Amber Green Care adopts a **child-centred approach**, recognising that education plays a vital role in helping children **experience achievement, develop skills, and maximise their potential**. Staff work closely with educational providers, social workers, and families to ensure that learning is **tailored to the child's strengths, interests, and developmental goals**.

In cases where a child arrives at Amber Green Care without an identified education placement, it is a **priority to secure an appropriate provision as quickly as possible**. The home works proactively with local authorities and education providers to ensure **minimal disruption to the child's learning and development**.

## Enjoyment and Achievement

### Arrangements for enabling the children to take part in a variety of activities

At Amber Green Care, children's **interests, choices, and participation** are central to activity planning. Activities are discussed and planned during the **weekly house meetings**, giving children the opportunity to contribute to what they would like to do. We also recognise that children's social lives and arrangements may change at short notice, and staff aim to **facilitate flexibility** while maintaining safety and managing risk.

### Structured and Special Activities

The home incorporates **specified activity nights** throughout the week, offering treat activities such as cinema visits, bowling, or other recreational outings. These are **evenly spaced** to provide balance and consistency in the weekly routine. Children also have access to a variety of **sporting and leisure opportunities** in the local area, supporting physical health, social development, and well-being.

### Personal Hobbies and Interests

Children are **encouraged and supported** to engage in their personal hobbies and interests, which may include activities such as dance, football, horse riding, and more. Staff are mindful of the importance of **reflecting each child's cultural identity and needs** when planning activities, ensuring that all children feel included and respected.

## Community and Local Opportunities

**The location of Bertha Willow Children’s Home** provides children with access to a wide range of community and local opportunities, ensuring they can explore, learn, and grow in a safe and nurturing environment. The home is surrounded by several parks, just a short walk or drive away. From Moss Bank Park and Leverhulme Park; the largest in the area, home to running and athletic clubs. Children can enjoy outdoor play, sports, and recreational activities.

Bolton Arena is a multi-purpose sports, leisure, and events venue located in Horwich, Bolton. Opened in 2001, it serves the local community and beyond with state-of-the-art facilities, including tennis courts, a gym, athletics track, football pitches, and fitness studios. The arena hosts a wide range of sporting events, health and wellbeing programmes, community initiatives, and business conferences. Its mission is to promote active, healthy lifestyles for people of all ages and abilities while also providing a space for major events and community engagement.

Bolton Lads and Girls Club is a leading youth charity based in the heart of Bolton town centre. It provides a safe, inclusive, and inspiring space for young people aged 8–19 (up to 21 for those with disabilities). The club offers a wide range of activities, including sports, arts, mentoring, employability support, and personal development programmes. Its mission is to help young people reach their full potential, build confidence, and make positive life choices. With thousands of members, it is one of the largest youth clubs in the UK and plays a vital role in supporting the wellbeing and future opportunities of local young people.

Bolton Library and Museum offers a mix of learning, culture, and community activities. The library provides books, digital resources, study spaces, and family activities, while the museum features exhibitions on local history, art, and natural history. Highlights include the **Egyptian galleries, aquarium**, and interactive displays. Together, they provide a welcoming space for reading, learning, creativity, and exploring Bolton’s heritage.

Elite Boxing in Bolton offers small group and one-to-one boxing and Thai boxing training for all ages and abilities. The gym caters for beginners, advanced as well as **SEN**. Along with community programmes such as free kids’ sessions and mental health support groups. With experienced coaches, a supportive environment, and well-equipped facilities, Elite Boxing combines fitness, skill-building, and community wellbeing.

The Amir Khan Academy in Bolton provides boxing training for children, young people, and adults of all abilities. Alongside fitness and boxing skills, the academy runs community programmes focused on education, mental wellbeing, and social issues such as anti-knife crime initiatives. With quality facilities and a supportive environment, it aims to inspire discipline, confidence, and positive opportunities through sport.

Smithills Open Farm, only a short drive away, gives children hands-on experiences with animals and nature, while the Jason Kenny Sports Centre offers swimming, fitness, and sports facilities tailored to different abilities. There are also Farnworth and Horwich leisure centers that offer swimming and gym facilities. Middlebrook Retail Park and Bolton’s

Market Place provide further opportunities for social engagement, shopping, dining, cinema visits, and arcade fun.

Bertha Willow actively supports each child to participate in activities suited to their abilities and interests, encouraging them to explore hobbies, learn new skills, and take part in local community events. Whether it's joining a sports club, visiting cultural or educational attractions, or volunteering in community projects, children are guided to develop confidence, social skills, and a sense of belonging.

By combining access to parks, recreational facilities, local amenities, and a supportive, caring staff team, Bertha Willow Children's Home ensures that every child has the opportunity to thrive, build relationships, and fully engage with their local community in a safe and enriching environment.

Other activities in the Bolton area and surrounding areas including:

- Sensory rooms in Preston and Bury
- Bowling and crazy golf
- Parks and outdoor spaces within a five-mile radius
- Local clubs such as Scouts, and Army Cadets

Children are supported to engage in a **healthy balance of structured activities and free time**, fostering independence, confidence, and enjoyment in both social and recreational pursuits.

### Learning Disability, Autism Spectrum Disorder, and Emotional & Behavioural Difficulties

Amber Green Care recognises that children placed within the home may present with Learning Disabilities, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties, or a combination of these needs. Our approach is child-centred, trauma-informed, and therapeutic, ensuring that care is tailored to each child's developmental level, communication style, emotional needs, and sensory profile. All support is underpinned by the PACE model of Playfulness, Acceptance, Curiosity, and Empathy, which provides a consistent relational framework for understanding behaviour and building trust.

Children with Learning Disabilities may experience difficulties with understanding information, processing language, memory, communication, and everyday life skills. At Amber Green Care, staff adapt communication and expectations to meet each child's level of ability and understanding. Information is shared in an accessible manner, using clear and concrete language, visual supports, and repetition where appropriate. Staff apply the PACE approach by responding with patience, warmth, and curiosity, ensuring that children feel accepted and supported rather than overwhelmed or judged.

Independence is promoted gradually and positively, enabling children to develop confidence, self-esteem, and practical skills at a pace that feels safe and achievable.

Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder are supported through structured routines, predictable environments, and consistent staff responses. Staff recognise that autism can affect social communication, emotional regulation, sensory processing, and tolerance of change. Clear routines and visual timetables help reduce anxiety and support emotional regulation, while transitions are carefully planned and explained in advance. The PACE approach is embedded into daily interactions, with staff using empathy to validate feelings, curiosity to understand individual triggers, acceptance to reduce shame, and appropriate playfulness to build connection and reduce stress. Behaviour associated with autism is understood as a form of communication, and staff respond in a calm, supportive, and non-punitive manner.

Children with Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties are supported through nurturing relationships and therapeutic care that recognises the impact of trauma, attachment disruption, and adverse life experiences. Staff understand that behaviour often reflects unmet emotional needs rather than deliberate challenge. Individual Behaviour Management Plans, also referred to as Behaviour Support Plans, are developed for each child where required. These plans are informed by assessments, observation, and professional input and are tailored to the child's specific needs, strengths, triggers, and coping strategies. Plans clearly identify early warning signs, de-escalation strategies, and supportive responses that promote emotional regulation and safety. Behaviour management is always consistent with the PACE model, ensuring that children experience empathy, understanding, and acceptance while being supported to develop safer and more appropriate ways to express their feelings.

## Health

### Details of Health care and therapeutic support

At Amber Green Care, we are committed to ensuring that **all physical, emotional, and health needs** of children are identified, monitored, and met. Children are provided with guidance and support regarding their health in a manner that is **appropriate to their age, understanding, and wishes**.

We actively discourage behaviours that may be harmful to health, including **smoking, vaping, alcohol or substance misuse, and underage sexual activity**. These topics are addressed to the child as appropriate during **keyworker sessions**, helping children understand the risks and consequences associated with such behaviours.

### Health Plans and Records

Each child has a **written Health Plan** as part of their overall placement plan. This document includes:

- Details the child's individual health needs.
- Outlines strategies to ensure these needs are met.
- Ensures that all staff working with the child are aware of relevant approaches and interventions.

A **daily health log** is maintained for the child, recording all health-related information. Written records are kept for **illnesses, accidents, and injuries**, ensuring accurate monitoring throughout the child's placement.

### **Medical Treatment and First Aid**

- First aid, minor illness treatment, and administration of medication are **only** undertaken **by trained and designated staff**.
- Comprehensive **written records** are maintained for all treatments and medications administered.
- All staff are trained in first aid, and the home is equipped with a **fully stocked first aid kit**, including kits available in the home vehicle.

### **Mental health**

Amber Green Care provides a nurturing and stable environment where children can feel safe, understood, and supported. On admission, each child receives a holistic mental health assessment that informs an individualised care plan. This plan is regularly reviewed and includes specific emotional and behavioural strategies tailored to the child's needs. Our staff team are trained in trauma-informed care, attachment theory, and emotional regulation strategies. We use evidence-based approaches such as positive behaviour support, therapeutic conversations, and structured daily routines to promote wellbeing. Where specialist input is needed, we work in partnership with Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), psychologists, and other therapeutic professionals to ensure children receive the right support at the right time. Children are encouraged to participate in decisions about their care, and families are involved wherever possible to strengthen consistency and support emotional stability.

### **Drug and Alcohol Misuse**

Amber Green Care adopts a non-judgemental, harm-reduction and education-based approach to substance misuse. We conduct thorough assessments where concerns arise and implement individual plans focusing on risk reduction, awareness, and personal responsibility. Staff use motivational and restorative approaches to support children in understanding the impact of substance use and to help them make informed choices. We maintain close links with Bolton's young person's drug and alcohol services, enabling swift referral for specialist support and collaborative care planning. Safeguarding remains central to all practice, and staff are trained to recognise and respond appropriately to signs of exploitation or county lines involvement. Education,

support, and relapse prevention are built into each young person's plan to promote sustainable recovery and resilience.

## **Sensory Impairment**

Amber Green Care recognises that some children may have sensory processing or physical impairments that affect their daily experience. We undertake individual sensory assessments and work with occupational therapists and other specialists to create personalised sensory profiles and support strategies. The home environment is adapted to meet sensory needs through the use of calm spaces, adjusted lighting, visual supports, and structured routines. Staff are trained to understand sensory sensitivities and to apply practical strategies such as sensory breaks, communication aids, and consistent routines to reduce stress and promote engagement. We also collaborate with Bolton's Sensory Support Service and other local professionals to ensure that children have access to the right equipment, educational adjustments, and therapeutic interventions.

## **Access to Health Services**

All children placed at Amber Green Care are registered with a local GP, optician, and dentist to ensure consistent access to healthcare. Comprehensive health assessments are completed in line with statutory guidance, with dental and optical checks forming part of the initial health assessment process. Regular reviews are undertaken to monitor each child's physical and emotional wellbeing.

Where a child is unable or unwilling to attend an appointment, this is promptly reported to the relevant local authority. Staff provide encouragement, practical support, and advocacy to help the child engage with health services and overcome any barriers to attendance.

Amber Green Care maintains strong links with **Bolton Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)** to ensure that children requiring specialist mental health assessment or therapy receive timely support. CAMHS professionals contribute to individual care planning and provide guidance to staff on therapeutic approaches and emotional regulation strategies.

For children affected by, or at risk of, substance misuse, Amber Green Care works collaboratively with **Early Break Bolton**, the commissioned young people's drug and alcohol service. Early Break provides targeted interventions, counselling, harm-reduction education, and family support. Staff liaise closely with these specialists to ensure coordinated care and effective risk management.

There is also **Waters Meeting Health Centre**, local to Bertha Willow, which provides out-of-hours GP services through **BARDOC** for urgent medical care when regular GP surgeries are closed. This ensures that healthcare is accessible at all times.

Through these comprehensive measures and partnerships, Amber Green Care ensures that every child's physical, emotional, and psychological wellbeing is prioritised. Our approach guarantees safe, consistent, and holistic healthcare in accordance with each child's individual needs and care plan.

## Therapeutic support

At Amber Green Care, our staff are central to delivering **high-quality, trauma-informed, and therapeutic care**. The team is trained to embed the **PACE model - Playfulness, Acceptance, Curiosity, and Empathy** - into all interactions with children, providing a foundation for building **trust, security, and positive relationships**.

Staff practice is guided by the principles of **honesty, transparency, understanding, love, integrity, and reflective parenting**. They aim to create an environment where children feel **safe, valued, and supported**, enabling them to develop emotionally, socially, and physically.

## Integrating PACE with Therapeutic Care

- **Playfulness:** Staff use creativity, humour, and lightness in daily interactions, helping children feel relaxed, engaged, and confident to explore their feelings and experiences.
- **Acceptance:** All behaviour is approached without judgment. Staff recognise that challenging behaviour often signals underlying needs and respond in a calm, supportive, and non-punitive manner.
- **Curiosity:** Staff actively seek to understand the child's experiences, motivations, and emotions. This reflective approach allows interventions to be **tailored to each child**, supporting growth and resilience.
- **Empathy:** Staff consistently demonstrate compassion and understanding, validating children's feelings and helping them develop **emotional regulation and self-awareness**.

**Dr Ian Scragg (HC)** is an external Consultant Psychotherapist commissioned by Amber Green Care to provide therapeutic support and clinical oversight. He is accredited and registered with the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy and has over twenty-four years' experience working with vulnerable adults, children and young people.

His professional background includes more than seventeen years in the prison service, where he held senior roles including Operational Manager, Head of Assessment, Therapy Manager and Senior Therapist. During this time he contributed to the development and delivery of the largest purpose-built forensic therapeutic community for male offenders, consisting of 200 beds, gaining extensive experience in service development and therapeutic programme delivery.

In 2024 Dr Scragg was awarded “Individual and Group Therapy Expert of the Year” for the West Midlands by Global Health and Pharmaceutical in recognition of his professional achievements. Over the past seven years he has primarily worked with children and young people, including roles as Regional Clinician and Clinical Lead, where he provided clinical and managerial oversight across forty-seven residential children’s homes and supported staff teams, carers and managers through consultation, training and therapeutic guidance.

Dr Scragg maintains a private practice where he provides psychotherapy for adults, children and young people, as well as clinical supervision, consultations, assessments for children in care and critical incident support. He is trained in humanistic, psychodynamic and cognitive behavioural therapeutic approaches and is a qualified trauma specialist with advanced training in Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing (EMDR). He also holds a Level 5 Degree qualification in Leadership and Management and has extensive knowledge of the Children’s Homes Regulations, Quality Standards and statutory guidance.

Within Amber Green Care, Dr Scragg provides external therapeutic support that helps ensure a trauma-informed and therapeutically informed care environment. His role includes clinical consultation with staff, supervision for managers and guidance to support the emotional wellbeing and therapeutic progress of children placed within the service. His involvement supports the delivery of evidence-based therapeutic practice and helps maintain high standards of care across the homes.

## Values in Practice

Amber Green Care staff embody values that reinforce the therapeutic ethos:

- **Honesty and Transparency:** Open communication with children and families promotes trust and accountability.
- **Understanding and Reflective Parenting:** Staff engage in reflective practice to continually evaluate and improve how they respond to each child’s unique needs.
- **Love and Compassion:** Care is delivered with warmth, nurturing relationships that support attachment and emotional recovery.
- **Integrity:** Staff act ethically, consistently, and in the child’s best interest, ensuring that care is safe, professional, and principled.

## Promoting Health and Wellbeing

The therapeutic approach extends beyond emotional care to include **physical, social, and psychological wellbeing**. Staff support children to:

- Develop healthy routines and lifestyle habits.
- Access education, healthcare, and leisure activities.

- Build self-esteem, resilience, and life skills.
- Engage in safe, meaningful social relationships and community activities.

Amber Green Care is committed to maintaining a skilled, knowledgeable, and reflective workforce. All staff complete a comprehensive induction covering safeguarding, child development, trauma-informed practice, and first aid. Ongoing training includes mental health awareness, substance misuse, sensory needs, communication, and positive behaviour support. Staff receive regular supervision, reflective practice sessions, and opportunities for accredited professional development. Competence is continuously monitored through observation, mentoring, and annual appraisals. This commitment to training ensures that staff provide safe, consistent, and effective support to every child in our care.

Through this integrated approach, Amber Green Care ensures that staff are not only caregivers but also therapeutic guides, helping children recover from trauma, build trust, and develop the skills and confidence necessary for long-term wellbeing and positive outcomes.

## **Positive relationships**

### **Arrangements for promoting contact with friends, family or other care givers**

At Amber green care we believe that children should be able to maintain constructive contact with their families, care givers, friends and others who play a significant role in their lives. The promotion of good quality contact between parents, extended family and friends and the child being looked after, is actively encouraged, unless prohibited by Court Order.

The arrangements will be specified within the (LAC) care plan. Staff at Bertha Willow children's home work hard to make all forms of agreed and permitted contacts a meaningful positive experience for the child. When arranging, consideration is given to meet the needs of all parties involved. When permissible, staff at Bertha willow children's home ensure that social workers, parents, and significant others are kept up to date regarding the child's progress and placement.

## **Protection of Children**

### **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**

At Amber green care, the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Craig Parkinson, Job Title Registered Manager

The DSL has overall responsibility for safeguarding practice within the home and

ensures that all concerns are responded to promptly, appropriately, and in line with statutory guidance and organisational policy.

The DSL is responsible for:

- Overseeing safeguarding and child protection concerns.
- Liaising with placing authorities, social workers, and external safeguarding agencies.
- Ensuring staff are trained, supported, and confident in safeguarding procedures.
- Reviewing risk assessments, including Missing from Home and behaviour-related risks.
- Ensuring safeguarding policies and practices remain compliant with legislation and best practice.

In the DSL's absence, safeguarding responsibilities are delegated to a suitably trained senior member of staff or the On-Call Manager.

## **Bertha Willow Children's Home Approach to Surveillance and Monitoring**

Bertha Willow Children's Home is equipped with CCTV and a camera door bell on the exterior of the building only. This is in place solely for safety and security purposes and is not used to monitor children or young people.

The home places a strong emphasis on promoting the privacy and dignity of children, reflecting our belief that every child has the right to a private space.

The child has their own bedroom, which is respected by staff as the child's personal area. Staff do not enter a child's room unless invited, except in the following circumstances:

- If the child is at risk of self-harm.
- If there is a risk of damage to property.
- If staff have an immediate safeguarding concern.

In such cases, staff act sensitively and respectfully, addressing the situation as quickly as possible while maintaining the child's sense of privacy. Any such action is recorded and, where appropriate, shared with the DSL.

## Room Searches

Where staff have significant safeguarding concerns that may necessitate a room search, the child is consulted and invited to be present wherever possible. Staff clearly explain the reason for the search and give the child the opportunity to hand over the item of concern voluntarily.

During any search, staff are mindful of the child's belongings, handling items carefully and respectfully to avoid damage or unnecessary disruption. All searches are recorded and reviewed by the Registered Manager or DSL.

## Access to Home Areas

Children at Bertha Willow have access to all appropriate areas within the home, including the kitchen, lounge, bathroom, and outdoor space. Children are encouraged to use these areas responsibly, supporting a homely, safe, and welcoming environment.

Areas are not locked unless there is a significant safeguarding concern. Any restrictions are risk-assessed, agreed by senior staff, and reviewed regularly to ensure they remain proportionate and time-limited.

## Freedom, Independence, and Risk Management

The home recognises that children have the right to freedom appropriate to their age, abilities, and level of independence. Staff actively promote safe socialisation and independence, balancing opportunities for growth with the need to safeguard children.

Children are supported to:

- Develop the knowledge and skills to keep themselves safe.
- Make positive choices in their daily lives.
- Take measured and supported risks that encourage learning, development, and independence.
- Form appropriate friendships and engage positively with peers and the wider community.

## Missing from Home

At Amber Green Care, we recognise that when a child or young person goes missing, it is a serious safeguarding concern requiring an immediate, structured, and compassionate response. All actions are guided by the child's level of vulnerability, personal history, and agreed care plan.

Each child has an individualised Missing from Home Risk Assessment and Safety Plan, developed during placement planning. These documents identify known risks, triggers, likely locations, and effective strategies for supporting the child. Plans are reviewed regularly and updated following every incident, with oversight from the DSL and Registered Manager.

Amber Green Care follows:

- The placing authority's guidance.
- Local authority Missing from Home and Care Protocols.
- Our internal safeguarding policies.

This ensures compliance with statutory requirements, including Department for Education guidance on children who go missing from care.

### **Immediate Response**

If a child is identified as missing, staff will:

- Conduct an urgent search of the home, garden, and immediate area.
- Contact known friends, family members, or locations the child may visit.
- Attempt to contact the child directly via phone or other communication methods.
- Notify the On-Call Manager or Senior Leadership Team immediately.
- Inform the placing authority or Emergency Duty Team in line with the child's plan.
- Report the child to the police when appropriate, sharing relevant details including description, clothing, photograph, and known risks. Where relevant, the British Transport Police will also be informed.

The DSL is kept informed throughout and provides oversight of safeguarding decisions.

### **On the Child's Return**

When a child returns, staff prioritise a supportive, non-judgemental welcome. Key steps include:

- Arranging a Return Home Interview, ideally within 72 hours, conducted by an independent person.
- Reviewing and updating the Missing from Home Plan with the child, their keyworker, the Registered Manager, and DSL.
- Identifying patterns or emerging risks and sharing these with the professional network.
- Where necessary, requesting a multi-agency strategy meeting to consider placement adaptations or additional safeguarding measures.

## 15. Bertha children's home approach to behavioural support

At Amber Green Care, promoting **positive behaviour** and **emotional regulation** is central to our ethos and therapeutic approach. Our behaviour support strategy is guided by the **Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015, Regulation 20**, which requires that homes have clear **policies and practices to manage behaviour**, promote positive outcomes, and minimise the need for physical interventions.

### Therapeutic Approach Using PACE

All staff are trained to embed the **PACE model - Playfulness, Acceptance, Curiosity, and Empathy** - into every interaction. This approach enables staff to:

- **Understand behaviour as communication**, recognising underlying emotional needs or trauma.
- Respond in a **non-punitive, supportive manner** that promotes trust and secure relationships.
- Help children develop **self-regulation, resilience, and positive coping strategies**.
- Ensure that all interventions are delivered with **honesty, empathy, and transparency**, fostering a safe and respectful environment.

### Positive Behaviour Strategies

#### Amber Green Care – Proactive Positive Behaviour Support and Safer Systems Approach

Amber Green Care prioritises proactive, positive behaviour support to create a safe, structured, and nurturing environment for children. We establish clear routines and consistent boundaries to provide stability and security, helping children feel confident in their environment. Individualised care and behaviour plans are developed in collaboration with each child's keyworker, reflecting their unique needs, triggers, and strategies for support. These plans guide staff in promoting positive behaviour and

supporting children to develop socially acceptable ways of expressing their feelings. Encouraging reflection and learning from experiences is central to our approach, alongside using rewards, praise, and constructive feedback to reinforce positive behaviours and build self-esteem.

Our approach to managing challenging behaviour is informed by the Safer Systems framework, which prioritises prevention, safety, and proportionality. Staff are trained to use **de-escalation techniques first**, employing verbal and non-verbal strategies to reduce tension and prevent incidents from escalating. Physical intervention is considered **only as a last resort** and is used solely to prevent serious harm to the child, others, or property. Approved, evidence-based restraint techniques are applied in a way that maintains the child's dignity and safety. All interventions are guided by careful risk assessment, continuous monitoring, and strict adherence to protocols.

Following any incident, detailed records are maintained, capturing the context, actions taken, and outcomes. These incidents are reviewed by staff and the Registered Manager to evaluate effectiveness, ensure compliance with regulations, and identify opportunities for learning. This reflective process helps improve future practice and informs staff training.

By integrating the Safer Systems approach, Amber Green Care ensures that challenging behaviour is managed safely, ethically, and supportively, promoting the long-term wellbeing, development, and dignity of every child in our care.

## **Record Keeping and Monitoring**

Amber Green Care maintains a comprehensive record of all incidents, behavioural events, and interventions. This includes:

- Detailed documentation of the **behaviour, context, and staff response**.
- Reflection on **triggers, outcomes, and follow-up actions**.
- Secure storage in the child's individual files, in accordance with data protection regulations

By integrating the **PACE model**, adhering to **Regulation 20**, and prioritising **positive, therapeutic behaviour support**, Amber Green Care ensures that children are supported to **understand their behaviour, develop self-control, and achieve positive social and emotional outcomes** in a safe and nurturing environment.

## **GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018**

At Amber Green Care, we are committed to protecting the privacy, rights, and dignity of every child in our care. In line with the **UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)** and the **Data Protection Act 2018**, we ensure that all personal information is:

- Collected lawfully, fairly, and transparently.
- Relevant and limited only to what is necessary for the care and support of the child.
- Stored securely, with access restricted to authorised staff only.
- Used solely for the purpose of safeguarding, supporting, and improving outcomes for the child.

We only collect information that directly relates to the child being looked after through our secure system. This information is used to enhance the quality of support and care provided, ensuring that each child's needs are met effectively and compassionately.

## Recording and Documentation

Amber Green Care maintains a comprehensive and secure record of all incidents, behavioural events, and interventions. Each record includes:

- **Detailed documentation** of the behaviour, context, and staff response.
- **Reflection** on triggers, outcomes, and follow-up actions to improve care strategies.
- **Secure storage** in the child's individual file, in strict compliance with data protection regulations.

## Importance of Data Protection

Protecting children's information is a fundamental part of safeguarding. Maintaining confidentiality not only meets legal requirements but also helps build trust with children, families, and professionals. Accurate and secure record-keeping ensures that staff can respond appropriately, monitor progress, and continuously improve the care provided.

## Leadership and management

### Registered provider, Responsible individual, and Registered manager

#### Amber Green Care

The **Directors of Amber Green Care** provide strategic, financial, and governance leadership for the organisation, ensuring that the home delivers **high-quality, safe, and effective care** to children. Their professional backgrounds as an **optician and pharmacist** bring valuable **healthcare expertise, safeguarding awareness, and insight into working with children and families**. Additionally, their involvement in a

local youth club has strengthened their understanding of the **needs of young people** and the importance of creating **supportive, nurturing environments**.

The Directors also possess extensive **financial and business management experience**, having held senior positions with responsibility for budgets and oversight of service delivery. This expertise ensures that Amber Green Care operates on a **sound financial footing**, with robust governance structures and sustainable resources to maintain high standards of care.

In their leadership role, the Directors work closely with the **Responsible Individual and Registered Manager**, regularly reviewing **Regulation 44 and 45 reports** to monitor performance, compliance, and the quality of care provided. They hold leaders accountable to ensure that the home is **safe, compliant with statutory requirements, and consistently acting in the best interests of children**.

Through their combined professional knowledge, safeguarding experience, and strategic oversight, the Directors ensure that Amber Green Care remains **committed to delivering excellent outcomes for every child in its care**.

## **Responsible individual**

### **Abdul Mubin Bux – Responsible Individual**

Mubin Bux brings extensive leadership and operational experience from over 14 years in the healthcare and pharmacy sector, where he has successfully managed large multidisciplinary teams and complex service delivery across multiple sites. A qualified ADHD Non-Medical Prescriber (NMP) Pharmacist, he has held senior roles including Head of Operations and Clinical Services Director, developing high-performing teams and ensuring the safe, effective delivery of regulated services.

His leadership style is characterised by strong relational practice, underpinned by genuine care for staff and service users alike. Mubin has a proven track record of embedding quality governance, compliance, and continuous improvement systems that align with national standards and regulatory frameworks.

As Responsible Individual, Mubin provides strategic oversight and accountability for Amber Green Care, ensuring that the Registered Manager and staff team deliver consistently high-quality, child-centred care. His focus is on creating a culture of transparency, reflection, and professional development where every young person feels safe, supported, and empowered to achieve their potential.

To further strengthen his knowledge and practice within Ofsted-regulated children's services, Mubin is receiving ongoing mentorship from Sally Heywood, a former Ofsted Inspector. Sally's extensive regulatory experience and sector insight provide invaluable guidance, supporting Mubin in maintaining the highest standards of compliance, governance, and reflective leadership, while embedding a culture of continuous improvement across Amber Green Care.

## **Registered Manager**

Craig Parkinson is the Homes Manager of Bertha Willow Children's Home. He brings a wealth of experience in children's care, health, and social care, having worked with children and young people since 2017. Over the years, Craig has developed expertise in supporting children with learning disabilities (LD), autism, and emotional and behavioural difficulties (EBD), ensuring that care is tailored to meet the individual needs of each child.

Craig had two overall good ratings in his last two OFSTED inspections.

Craig has extensive experience in delivering staff training and development, ensuring that the team is equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to provide high-quality, therapeutic, and child-centred care. In addition, he has supervised large staff teams, demonstrating strong leadership and organisational abilities, while maintaining a focus on safeguarding, compliance, and the wellbeing of both children and staff.

Under Craig's leadership, the home maintains robust care planning, risk management, and behaviour support systems, underpinned by a trauma-informed and therapeutic approach. He ensures that staff practice is consistent with best practice and regulatory requirements, promoting positive outcomes for children through a supportive, structured, and nurturing environment.

Craig is committed to continuous improvement, regularly reviewing operational procedures, staff performance, and care standards to ensure that the home remains safe, compliant, and responsive to the evolving needs of children. His combination of hands-on experience, leadership expertise, and specialist knowledge makes him a highly effective manager, dedicated to delivering excellent outcomes for all children in his care.

### Organisational structure



All employees are subject to a probationary period usually of six months duration. This applies to all newly appointed staff, those recently promoted or those who changed position with the organisation. Probation reviews will be conducted regularly throughout their first six months. At each review meeting eight core work areas will be assessed to evidence staff's abilities and skills, This will enable a plan of action to be drawn up if individuals do require specific support or guidance to achieve the standard of

performance required. There is a robust supervision policy and procedure in place for all staff on a regular basis.

We believe supervision and appraisals are fundamental to supporting and developing staff as much as to monitoring performance. Therefore, written records are kept detailing the date and content of each supervision session. Regular consultation and effective communication is key to the success of any residential staff team. In order to facilitate additional support systems handovers take place at the start and end of every shift. Staff members are encouraged to share their views, explore solutions to issues and give and receive constructive feedback on one another's performance.

### **Promoting Appropriate Role Models**

At Bertha Willow, there is a mixed representation of male and female staff in order to optimise the development of young people, who require appropriate role models of both genders.

### **Bertha children's home support team experience and qualifications**

Name	Position	Experience	Qualification
Craig Parkinson	Homes Manager	Craig has extensive experience in the health and social care sector, beginning his career in 2009 working with adults before moving into children's services in 2017. He has developed strong managerial and leadership skills and became a registered manager in 2020. Craig has worked across SEND and EBD children's homes, supporting young people with diverse and complex needs. Alongside his operational leadership, he also has a strong training background, delivering Team Teach and a range of in-house	Level 5 Diploma in leadership and management for residential childcare (England)

		training sessions to develop and support staff teams.	

## Care Planning

### 1. Criteria for admission and details for the review process for placement plans

At Amber Green Care, we recognise that regular and meaningful review of each child's care plan is essential to ensuring their needs are consistently met and their voice is central to decision-making. Reviews are not treated as a formality but as an opportunity to reflect, adapt, and strengthen the support provided to the child.

An initial **planning meeting** where possible is arranged before a child moves into the home. Following admission, a **72-hour review** is held to confirm that arrangements are in place, risks are managed, and the child feels safe and supported.

For children who are looked after under statutory frameworks, formal **Child Looked After (CLA) reviews** are held in line with regulations: within **28 days of admission**, again within **3 months**, and then at **6-month intervals** thereafter. If a placement begins in an urgent or unplanned way, a care planning discussion takes place within **24 hours** to ensure the child's needs are understood and responded to without delay.

We believe that reviews should be **inclusive, participatory, and child-centred**. Children are given tailored support to prepare for their reviews in a way that feels comfortable to them - this may include keywork sessions, creative tools, or one-to-one time with a trusted adult. Parents, guardians, social workers, and other key professionals are invited to contribute, ensuring that the review is well-rounded and reflective of the child's wider network.

In addition to statutory reviews, the home may arrange **interim care planning meetings** when there are changes in the child's circumstances, emerging needs, or important decisions to be made. These meetings ensure that plans remain **live, responsive, and outcome-focused**.

At **Amber Green Care**, we place great importance on robust and meaningful care planning. Each child's plan is designed to be a **living document**, guiding everyday practice while adapting to reflect their changing needs, strengths, and aspirations. To achieve this, we use a combination of **secure digital systems and structured paper files**, ensuring clear oversight, accountability, and consistency across the staff team.

The **Registered Manager** and the child's **keyworker** take primary responsibility for developing and overseeing care plans, but the process is collaborative and involves the **entire staff team**, external professionals, and, most importantly, the **child themselves**. We believe that effective care planning relies on good communication, reflective practice, and an ongoing commitment to hearing and responding to the child's voice.

Our approach is **child-centred, flexible, and therapeutic**. We aim to balance structure with responsiveness, ensuring that each child experiences care that feels personal, relevant, and supportive throughout their time with us.

## **Our Care Planning Cycle**

### **Assessment**

The process begins as soon as a referral is received. The Registered Manager carefully considers whether the child's needs can be safely and effectively met within the home. Information is gathered from the placing authority, family members, previous carers, and professionals. Assessment continues throughout the placement, with staff updating records to reflect new observations, emerging risks, or changes in the child's goals and circumstances.

### **Planning**

Plans are developed in partnership with the child, their social worker, and other professionals involved in their care. Each plan is tailored, setting out **health needs, education arrangements, emotional and behavioural support, risk management strategies, and personal goals**. Plans are realistic, purposeful, and designed to promote both immediate stability and longer-term progress.

### **Implementation**

Every member of staff contributes to the delivery of care plans. This takes place through structured routines, therapeutic interactions, keywork sessions, and daily living experiences. Staff ensure that plans are not simply written documents but are embedded into everyday practice, supporting the child to achieve positive outcomes in a consistent and nurturing way.

### **Reviews**

Care plans are regularly reviewed to ensure they remain accurate, outcome-focused, and in the child's best interests. Formal reviews with the placing authority are supported by internal evaluations and reflective team discussions. Children are encouraged to take

an active role in these reviews, helping them to understand their progress and influence their future care.

At Amber Green Care, admissions are handled on an individual, child-centred basis to ensure that the placement is appropriate, safe, and supportive. Each referral is carefully reviewed by the Registered Manager and Responsible Individual, who work closely with the placing authority to gather comprehensive information about the child's history, needs, strengths, and preferences.

### **Initial Referral Review**

- The Registered Manager considers the child's care plan, legal status, risk assessments, health records, education plans, and any therapeutic or psychological reports.
- Professional curiosity and open communication with social workers, previous placements, schools, and relevant professionals are used to build a complete understanding of the child's requirements.

### **Preparation for Admission**

- Where possible, pre-admission meetings are arranged with the child, their family, and key professionals to start building relationships and reduce anxiety about the transition.
- The home team may engage with the child prior to arrival, providing information, familiarisation, and reassurance to ensure a warm, informed welcome.

### **Emergency or Short-Notice Admissions**

- In urgent situations, the Registered Manager leads in decision-making, ensuring that essential safeguards are in **place** before confirming the placement.
- Efforts are still made to gather information from key professionals to inform planning and reduce risk.

### **Documentation Required**

Where possible before confirming a single placement, the following documentation is preferred to be received and reviewed:

- Legal status and care planning documents
- Risk assessments and safety plans
- Health records and assessments
- Education, Health, and Care Plans (EHCPs), if applicable
- Personal Education Plan (PEP)
- Minutes of relevant review meetings

- Any recent psychological or therapeutic reports

### **Confirmation of Placement**

- Only the **Registered Manager** can approve a placement, supported by the **Responsible Individual** and the **Company Directors**.
- The decision ensures the placement is **appropriate, safe, and in the best interests of the child**, with a clear plan for meeting their individual needs from day one.

### **For a child that has a Deprivation of Liberty (DOL's) in place**

Upon admission to Amber Green care, children subject to a Deprivation of Liberty Safeguard (DoLS) are supported in full compliance with the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015, the Care Standards Act 2000, the Mental Capacity Act 2005, and other relevant legislation and guidance. Amber Green ensures that the child's rights, welfare, and individual needs are central to all care planning and daily practice.

**Comprehensive Admission Assessment:** Conducting a detailed assessment of the child's needs, risks, and preferences, while reviewing the DoLS authorisation to ensure all legal conditions are met.

**Individualised Care Planning:** Developing a care plan that aligns with the child's DoLS requirements, safeguarding considerations, and personalised support needs.

**Staff Training and Awareness:** Ensuring all staff understand DoLS legislation, the child's legal rights, and the procedures for monitoring and reporting.

**Ongoing Review and Monitoring:** Maintaining continuous oversight of the child's welfare, regularly reviewing the DoLS status in line with statutory guidance, and liaising with local authorities and relevant professionals to uphold the child's best interests.

**Promotion of Rights and Participation:** Actively involving the child in decisions about their daily life where possible, supporting autonomy, and providing advocacy in line with regulatory expectations.

**Amber Green Care** is committed to providing high-quality residential care for children and young people aged 7–17 years in a **safe, nurturing, and legally compliant environment**. We balance **safeguarding, individual rights, and therapeutic support**, ensuring that each child's needs are met within a small, supportive home setting. Our admission process is carefully designed to ensure that every placement is **safe, appropriate, and in the best interests of the child**, providing a strong foundation for wellbeing and development.

## Regulation 5 – Engaging with the Wider System to Ensure Children’s Needs Are Met

At Bertha Willow Children’s Home, we work proactively with all professionals and agencies involved in the care and protection of every child. We foster strong, collaborative relationships with social workers, schools, health services, police, and voluntary organisations to ensure that children’s needs are identified and addressed without delay. Where concerns arise regarding the effectiveness of another service, we escalate appropriately and advocate firmly on behalf of the child. We recognise that children thrive when the wider system around them functions effectively, and we are committed to playing an active and responsive role in making this happen.

We understand that this work cannot be achieved in isolation. Like any family, we reach out for help, support, and opportunities for growth. We value professional relationships highly and are committed to working constructively with others to achieve the very best outcomes for children.

### Local Officer

Amber Green Care is committed to working in line with the Local officer to ensure that all children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) are able to access the support and services they require. We actively assist families and professionals in navigating the Local officer, ensuring that education, health, and social care needs are clearly identified, assessed, and met.

### Summary

Our **purpose** is to provide a safe, nurturing, and supportive home where every child is valued, respected, and encouraged to thrive. We are committed to delivering high-quality care that meets the *Children’s Home Regulations* and the *Quality Care Standards*. Guided by our core values of **safety, respect, compassion, inclusion, and empowerment**. We place each child’s wellbeing at the centre of our practice.

### Review

Date	Reason for review and changes	Name of person reviewing the Statement of purpose
24/10/2025	Review no changes	Craig Parkinson (HM)
24/11/2025	Input management in section 18	Craig Parkinson (HM)
15/12/2025	Updated <b>Positive Behaviour Strategies</b> included safer systems approach	Craig Parkinson (HM)
12.01.2026	Review No changes	Craig Parkinosn (HM)
16.02.2026	Review No changes	Craig Parkinson (HM)

18.02.2026	Page 14 Learning Disability, Autism Spectrum Disorder, and Emotional & Behavioural Difficulties	Craig Parkinson (HM)
16.03.2026	Updated Dr ian scragg added, Joseph Mcgowan Added	Craig Parkinson (HM)