

ARNFIELD CARE Ltd.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Abridged

FOR

**ARNFIELD
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL**

DCSF Reg 830/6034

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1 The overall aims and objectives of the school.

1.1 The Aim and Purpose Of Arnfield School

- 1.1.1 Arnfield School is an independent school, registered by DCSF (registration number: 830/6034). The school is based at two locations: Arnfield Tower Activity Centre and Greenfield House. The purpose of Arnfield School is to provide on-site education for children accommodated at Arnfield Tower Activity Centre and at Greenfield House.
- 1.1.2 Arnfield Tower Activity Centre is a registered children's home (Ofsted registration no SC020133), and a licensed activity centre, licensed by the Adventure Activities Licensing Service [AALS] (registration no L5548/R088Z)
- 1.1.3 Greenfield House is a registered children's home (Ofsted registration no SC020171)

For further details of the two children's homes, please see section 3.2 of this document, or alternatively refer to the Statements of Purpose for Arnfield Tower Activity Centre and Greenfield House.

- 1.1.4 Arnfield School initiates and maintains curriculum based education on site as well as through planned activities, individual direct work and group work with children.
- 1.1.5 The broad aims of Arnfield School are to provide the children with:
 - progress in education, with possible re-integration into mainstream school or college
 - work experience
 - preparation for further education or employment
 - development of independence skills in preparation for eventually leaving care

1.2 The Objectives of Arnfield School

Under the *'Working Together'* and *'Every Child Matters'* initiatives, the more specific objectives of Arnfield School are:

1.2.1 Working Together

- To build positive relationships and work together in partnership with parents, family, placing authority and other relevant people towards protecting and promoting the best interests, safety and well-being of each child.
- To provide regular written progress reports covering social and educational development and progress to partners in caring for the child.

1.2.2 Be Healthy

- To ensure that children's presenting physical, mental and emotional health needs are met.
- To encourage and enable all children to make informed choices about more all healthy lifestyles.

1.2.3 Stay Safe

- To provide children with immediate access to respite from stressful and distressing situations in a safe, secure and caring learning environment.
- To provide an atmosphere of acceptance and approval where all children are treated as individuals and are protected from harm.
- To provide support to children with a range of difficult presenting problems and issues which have challenged their previous placements.
- To provide a safe, stable, stimulating, structured and warm learning environment with clearly understood routines and consistent boundaries with known consequences and rewards.

1.2.4 Enjoy and Achieve

- To provide stretching education and personal development opportunities for learning which are integrated into each child's individual education and care plans and tailored to the child's needs.
- To provide opportunities for children to learn teamwork and a variety of new skills, as part of a cohesive group.
- To create achievable challenges for individuals and for the group which will enable children to achieve success.

1.2.5 Make a Positive Contribution

- To provide a learning environment with appropriate adult role models in which children are able to make positive relationships, and learn to value and respect other people regardless of culture, racial origin, faith, gender, sexual orientation, disability or other factors.
- To engage in individual direct work, focusing on particular issues through which children may explore and understand their own experiences and feelings and be enabled to move forward and develop their potential.
- To provide opportunities for children to rebuild their self-esteem and self-confidence and become better motivated.

1.2.6 Achieve Economic Well-being

- To enable children achieve a more balanced perspective on life and work towards social reintegration.
- To enable children to prepare for further education, employment and independent living.

2. The facilities and services provided by the school.

2.1 Premises and location.

- 2.1.1 At both premises, Arnfield School has access to the full range of facilities and services provided by the children's home. [For further details of the premises and facilities available in the children's homes, please refer to section 2.1 of the Statements of Purpose for Arnfield Tower Activity Centre and Greenfield House]
- 2.1.2 At Arnfield Tower, the school occupies a classroom in a separate building within the grounds of Arnfield Tower, but detached from the main house.
- 2.1.3 At Greenfield House, the school occupies a large classroom, which is part of the children's home building, but separate from the communal areas of the home.

2.2 Adventure Activities

- 2.2.1 Arnfield School is a licensed provider of specified activities to children under the age of 18 years pursuant to the *Activity Centres (Young Person's Safety) Act 1995* and the *Adventure Activities Licensing Regulations 1996*. The specified activities are:

kayaking	open canoeing
paddle surfing	sailing
wind surfing	water skiing
wake boarding	rock climbing
ice climbing	abseiling
sea level traversing	gorge scrambling
hill walking	mountaineering
mountain biking	caving
mine exploration.	

- 2.2.2 Arnfield School is subject to inspection by the Adventure Activities Licensing Service [AALS]. Any enquiries or complaints may be addressed to:

Adventure Activities Licensing Service (AALS) 17 Lambourne Crescent Llanishen Cardiff CF4 5GG	Telephone 01222 755715
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- 2.2.3 Adventure activities are led by appropriately qualified instructors who carry out structured risk assessments (within AALS guidelines) of the activity and the child(ren) and staff involved.
- 2.2.4 Where required, appropriate safety equipment (e.g. buoyancy aids; throw ropes; helmets - for canoeing, climbing, caving or cycling; protective clothing and correct footwear) are provided and used. In the event of a child refusing to use safety equipment as directed, the activity will not take place.
- 2.2.5 Outdoor Educational Activities are tailored to the needs of each child in order to present appropriate and achievable challenges. Staff with a wide range of skills are employed by Arnfield Care Ltd, and an impressive inventory of equipment is available to provide the adventure activities. This means that even during a short placement a programme of outdoor activity tailored to a child's individual needs and interests can be planned and delivered.
- 2.2.6 Arnfield School's inventory of equipment includes tents and camping equipment, kayaks, canoes, climbing gear, caving suits, wetsuits and mountain bikes. For the children's safety and comfort waterproofs, fleeces, and appropriate footwear (e.g. climbing shoes, walking boots) are also available.

2.3 Leisure activities

For further details of the leisure activities available in the children's homes, please refer to section 2.3 of the Statements of Purpose for Arnfield Tower Activity Centre and Greenfield House]

2.4 Camps

For further details of the camps programme provided by the children's homes, please refer to section 2.4 of the Statements of Purpose for Arnfield Tower Activity Centre and Greenfield House]

2.5 Vehicles

The vehicles used by Arnfield School are Land Rover 4x4s as these are viewed as having an exceptionally wide range of use including off road capability suited to outdoor education and pursuits, and other ordinary cars. Arnfield School does not use minibuses, or any vehicles which could be identified as belonging to a school or children's home, as this could be seen as stigmatising.

2.6 Staffing

- 2.6.1 The number of staff on duty in each of the children's homes is determined by the number of children being looked-after at any one time. The staffing ratio is always close to 1:1 at Arnfield Tower and is greater than 1:2 at Greenfield House. Throughout school hours, there are additionally one or more managers, a senior residential care worker, an outdoor education instructor and a teacher on duty. At all times there is a manager available either on the premises or on call.
- 2.6.2 There will normally be both male and female staff on duty at all times in the homes, and this is reflected in the fact that the school is attended by both male and female pupils. The only times when there may be an all-male staff team on duty would be on occasions when all the residents in the home, and all the pupils in the school at that location are males.
- 2.6.3 If for any reason, there were no female staff available to work with a mixed gender group of residents in one of the homes or pupils at one of the school locations, then female staff from the other children's home would be required to replace one or more of the male staff working at the home or school in question.

For further details of staffing arrangements in the children's homes, please refer to section 2.6 of the Statements of Purpose for Arnfield Tower Activity Centre and Greenfield House.

**FOR A COMPLETE AND DETAILED COPY
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