

# Positive Behaviour Support Service

for Children and  
Young People with  
learning disabilities

working in partnership with



Supporting people with learning disabilities



Gloucestershire  
COUNTY COUNCIL

## About Affinity Trust

Affinity Trust supports over 900 people with learning disabilities across England and Scotland, helping them live as independently as possible.

We support people with a wide range of needs including autism, complex needs and behaviours that challenge.

We focus on meeting each person's specific needs and enabling them to achieve their goals and aspirations.



## Our service in Gloucestershire

We work intensively with individual children, their families, schools and other professionals, to prevent the child from entering residential care.

This service will be for children and young people. They will have learning disabilities and behaviours that result in significant challenges to those who care for and support them. They may also have secondary diagnoses like autism or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

Children referred to us will be facing a significant risk of breakdown of their home and school placements.

The service works with up to four children at a time, using the Positive Behaviour Support framework.

## What is Positive Behaviour Support?

Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) is a framework for developing an understanding of behaviour that challenges. It is based on an assessment of the social, physical and individual contexts in which the behaviour occurs, and uses this information to develop interventions.

The aims of PBS are to improve people's quality of life and support those around them.

PBS works by developing the skills of the person and those who support them, rather than by using aversive or restrictive interventions.



## How the service is delivered

Our Service Lead, qualified and experienced in PBS delivery, carries out a functional assessment of each child, before co-producing a detailed PBS plan.

Specialist Key Workers work directly with each child, their family and school, providing guidance and support over a sustained period to help embed person-centred PBS support. They also focus on transferring skills, so that intensive support can be withdrawn when the time is right.

Frequent multi-agency reviews involving parents assess the effectiveness of the support and measure progress towards a range of qualitative outcomes for each child.

Affinity Trust is committed to effective partnership working across Gloucestershire to help further embed PBS as a way of working with children.

## Aims and outcomes

The aims and outcomes of the service are to:

- ➔ Improve the life experiences and wellbeing of each child and their family by reducing rates of entry to residential care.
- ➔ Reduce the frequency, intensity and duration of behaviours that challenge displayed by the child.



## Referrals

The service will take referrals only from the Gloucestershire PBS referral panel. This ensures that all support needs have been assessed and responded to before referral.

None of the activity carried out by Affinity Trust is intended to replace those services, such as short breaks, normally provided by the referring body's frontline Teams

We will focus our resources on the children for whom a breakdown of community-based placement is predicted, and who are likely to benefit most from PBS.

## More information

To find out more please contact:

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