

**Central
Bedfordshire**

Maythorn

Statement Of Purpose

2025



Author:..... Johura Moyeen, Deputy Manager
Approved by:Tom Smith, Responsible Individual
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**Central
Bedfordshire**

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Quality and Purpose of Care

Statement of the range of needs

Maythorn is a residential home for children and young people with disabilities and complex health needs aged naught to eighteen years of age. Maythorn provides long term care , short breaks and shared care placements within the home.



Ethos of the home

At Maythorn, we firmly believe that every child and young person deserves to feel secure in a nurturing environment where they can enjoy themselves, learn, and grow.

To support this belief, we embrace five core values—Family, Love, Trust, Respect, and Happiness—developed collaboratively with our young people and staff. These values form the foundation of our home's culture and guide the actions and decisions of our staff and management.

We are committed to reshaping the perception of disability, empowering our young people to take pride in their identities and accomplishments while in our care.

Maythorn is an inclusive home that encourages our children and young people to express themselves and celebrate their unique qualities.

We actively promote participation in and understanding of various cultural and religious celebrations, recognising and embracing diversity in all its forms.

Our holistic approach relies on strong partnerships among staff, children, caregivers, and the broader professional team, while consistently advocating for children's rights.



Accommodation offered & Location of the home

At Maythorn, we provide versatile accommodation to meet the needs of our young people. We adapt the surroundings with the input of the young people who live here, to support each child to feel comfortable and accommodated.

Maythorn is a single-story building in Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, close to amenities and transport links to towns like Stevenage and Bedford, and just 40 minutes by train to central London. Adjacent to Ivel Valley College, it has strong connections with the school. The building consists of three independent areas—Maythorn, Pathway, and Haven—each with their own entrance, kitchen, bathroom, and secure garden access.

Maythorn is a five-bedroom home featuring three large communal spaces including a lounge, dining room and sensory snug. Those living in Maythorn have access to two toilet rooms, two shower rooms and a bathroom. The Home has the benefit of an accessible kitchenette to support independence skills alongside a commercial kitchen where our chef prepares meals. A large garden with sensory and play equipment can be accessed from the main corridor and a large sensory cabin is available to all those who stay here.

Pathway is a self-contained one-bedroom flat which can enable specific work to be undertaken with young people who are in, or coming up to, transition to adult services. Pathway also has the potential to serve as a shared care environment, to support the contact needs of a family or to help develop the life skills of those young people accessing Haven. Pathway is also a safe and positive place to support young people who at times may require higher levels of individualised support.

Haven is a two-bedroom area which provides short breaks. When visiting Haven, each young person has their own allocated bedroom which can be adapted and accessorised to meet the needs, likes and dislikes of the child. Children and young people have access to a large communal lounge, shared shower and toilet room, a private garden and large accessible kitchen.

The building is wheelchair friendly with wide doorways, corridors, and ramps. Facilities include adapted bathroom and kitchen equipment, and specialist sensory and interactive environments.





Arrangements for supporting the cultural, linguistic and religious needs of the children

Maythorn welcomes children with a wide variety of cultural, religious and communication needs. Providing care for our children should always be based on an assessment of individual needs.

Part of our initial welcome assessment will include asking the child or young person and their carer what they prefer and then to meet their preferences wherever possible, this includes trying to understand a person's history by talking to them and their family, asking questions if we are unsure and being continually curious about what is important to help the child or young person to live their fullest lives.

Complaints

Maythorn welcomes feedback about the service that is delivered.

There is a 3 stage complaints process, which allows for investigation of complaints, including the option of an independent review, within prescribed timescales. In the first instance the manager should be contacted with any concerns or complaints. A leaflet explaining how to make comments, compliments or complaints can be obtained from Maythorn, the young person's social worker or the Council's Customer Relations team. Alternatively scan the QR code to access the customer feedback online form for Children's services in Central Bedfordshire.



If anyone feels unable to approach staff or the Manager at Maythorn about their concerns, they can contact the Head of Specialist Services on 0300 300 4649.

Access to the home's child protection and behaviour management policies

The homes Safeguarding Policies and Behaviour Management policy can be found on our on-line system, Tri-X

https://www.proceduresonline.com/central_bedfordshire/ch/index.html





Access to the home's child protection and behaviour management policies

Those outside our organisation can find details of these procedures on Central Bedfordshire Local Safeguarding Board website.

<https://www.centralbedfordshirelscb.org.uk/lscb-website/home-page>



Views, Wishes and Feelings

Consulting with Children and Young People

At Maythorn we create regular opportunities for our children and young people to communicate how they feel about their home and the care they receive here. This is done through weekly children's meetings, monthly keyworker sessions and simple day to day interactions, conversations, and observations of our young people. We recognise at Maythorn that often our young people may not communicate in a conventional neurotypical way, but the staff team have a wealth of expertise and understanding of communication styles and their knowledge of the young people allows them to seek feedback in innovative ways and respond to the needs and wants of the children in our home.

We record and celebrate achievements in a way that challenges the perception of young people with disabilities and recognises their strengths and progress in a format that is child friendly. These are completed monthly and shared with the children to promote positive self-reflection, well-being, and pride.





The home's policy and approach to anti discriminatory practice and children's rights

Maythorn believes in providing a welcoming, comfortable, and accessible environment that is safe and easy to use for children, parents, relatives, staff, visitors, and other users of the home. Maythorn encourages children to develop respect for themselves and for others by delivering a service that recognises and builds on the strengths of children and young people from all cultures, religions, gender, age, sexual orientation, ability, and backgrounds; in ways that meet their needs and help them to achieve their full potential.

Every effort is made to ensure that the Home is welcoming to all children and young people and others significant in their care and wellbeing; this effort is reflected in the communication around the Home, including posters, information boards and displays. In addition to this, resources used to develop work with children and young people are chosen for their suitability and anti-oppressive nature.

Children and young people are offered opportunities to try out new experiences, which are not restricted by traditional gender options. Staff are expected and actively encouraged to challenge attitudes, behaviour and language that are non-inclusive and discriminatory, in a positive way. Managers monitor the range of children and young people placed within Maythorn in terms of ethnicity, gender, and disability.

Children are protected, and helped to keep themselves safe, from bullying, homophobic behaviour, racism, sexism, radicalisation, and other forms of discrimination. Any discriminatory behaviours, direct or indirect, are challenged and help and support are given to children and young people about how to treat others with respect.

Maythorn actively encourages their children and young people to exercise their rights by supporting young people to access independent advocacy services provided to them monthly if they wish, to express their views and wishes and, where necessary, challenge their care plans and decision-making about their futures.

Education

Supporting children with special educational needs

Children living at Maythorn should be attending school or other educational provisions, be learning and encouraged to make progress. The team are ambitious for children and support them to attend and to do well in their education. At Maythorn we support full time attendance at school unless the child's relevant plan indicates this is not in their best interests.

Maythorn will ensure that each child has access to appropriate equipment, facilities and resources to support the child's learning, and that staff help each child to understand the importance and value of education, learning, training and employment and promote opportunities for each child to learn informally.

As a team we understand the barriers to learning that each child may face and take appropriate action to help the child to overcome any such barriers.



Supporting education and educational achievements

We actively support our children and young people to attend any educational provider deemed most appropriate by their caregiver and the professionals surrounding them. We develop close links with the schools our children attend which enables positive working relationships with classes and teachers, which allows for a consistent approach to education, behaviour management and independent skills.

Keyworkers make every effort to attend the school at regular intervals to observe the child or young person in their educational setting and gain insight into their educational needs and support. Often, with the consent of parent and/or guardians, keyworkers will attend 'Parents' evening to keep an up-to-date knowledge of their child's progress and additional needs. Daily communication with school allows for a robust system around administration and movement of medications, consistency with toileting plans, food plans and any complex health needs a child may have.



Enjoy and Achieve

Activities within the home

Maythorn has a flexible and adaptable approach to enjoying and achieving in the home, although we value routine and its importance to some of the children or young people we support, we are also able to enjoy in the spontaneous, being guided by the interests and desires of the child. At Maythorn we have an emphasis on fun- after all the children we support are just that, children. We firmly believe that a large part of their success in our home is enjoying their time with us, making lasting memories and experiencing new and exciting opportunities regularly.

Our children are offered a wide variety of opportunities and new experiences on a regular basis from seaside days out, to trampolining sessions. Our aim is to ensure our young people have the same opportunity to experience a diverse range of activities as other young people their age. Often these opportunities enable our young people to be an active part of their local community, whilst developing crucial social skills and independence and having fun.



Great examples of this are taking a Cathedral passionate young person to visit St Pauls, meet the world-famous Choir and tour the building and its grounds on a VIP tour with a senior Metropolitan Police Officer. Maythorn also facilitates fantastic experiences like holidays at Centre Parcs where young people can enjoy activities such as rock climbing, boating and pottery painting. More recently staff have facilitated trips to Music festivals, Nickelodeon experiences, London Days out and Milkshake Live at the Gordon Craig Theatre.

Within the home we celebrate all the young people's achievements, however big or small they may seem and encourage an active and varied lifestyle. Our sensory cabin and snug are perfect environments for our children to relax and enjoy whilst in the comfort of their own home whilst the accessible kitchenette allows for cooking and cleaning to be a participation activity.

Health

Health care provided within the home

Maythorn works closely with all health professionals associated with a young person, including routine health checks and specialist appointments. We maintain links with school nurses and community nurses and the NHS Community Learning Disability Team, and are able to seek their specialist advice if needed. School nurses are involved in training our staff in specialist health tasks, and the team receive training in first aid, epilepsy awareness and administration of medication. Each young person's support plan has detailed information regarding any specific health care needs, personal care needs and routines. For additional health needs, a health care plan will be on file. Maythorn has a clear policy which outlines procedures for medication. All staff receive training to ensure good practice, policies and standards are adhered to.



We encourage a healthy lifestyle through promoting a balanced diet, considering dietary needs. Young people are involved in meal planning, shopping, preparation, and cooking.

Regular exercise is encouraged through accessing local activities. These are chosen and planned with the young people to promote enjoying exercise. Maythorn has a large garden which enables young people to play games and have time outside in a safe environment.

Each young person's emotional needs are supported by guidance found in their support plan. This may include information on managing anxieties, or specific behaviours and behaviour management strategies.

Positive Relationships

Promoting contact between children, families and friends

Regular contact with parents, carers and families is encouraged where requested and appropriate. Young people are encouraged to celebrate holidays and family birthdays by making and decorating gifts and cards for their families. Children and young people are also supported to engage in phone calls, FaceTime, and physical contact sessions regularly. Recently Maythorn has updated Pathway to provide a homely and welcoming environment to accommodate quality contact sessions for families.

We endeavour to maintain lasting links with young people who transition from our service, where appropriate, by continuing contact with staff and peers through visits and invites to parties and activities hosted by Maythorn. We believe that a child's journey with Maythorn doesn't end when they move out, we aim to continue to be in their lives for as long as feels natural and healthy for the young person.

Protection of children

Approach to monitoring and surveillance

The use of monitoring and surveillance in Maythorn is only permissible when necessary to safeguard and promote the welfare of a child or other children and young people. No visual monitoring or surveillance equipment is used within the home. Audio monitoring is used in individual cases to protect and safeguard those with significant health needs at the consent of the child and their parent/carer. Maythorn has mechanical surveillance systems in the form of alarmed external doors that are triggered when opened to alert staff and one bedroom door opening alarm which has been fitted with the consent of parents and social care for the safety and wellbeing of the individual child.

Arrangements for the protection of children

The safety of the children and young people in our care is paramount. Staff support children to be aware of and manage their own safety both inside and outside the Home to the extent that any good parent would. Staff should help children to understand how to protect themselves, feel protected and be protected from significant harm.

Children and young people are encouraged to develop positive relationships with others both in and outside the Home. However, staff are aware to the possibility that children may be at risk from such relationships and are suitably trained to recognise and respond appropriately if there are concerns.

Proactive and creative safeguarding practice alongside a high level of supervision means that all children, including the most vulnerable, have a strong sense of safety and well-being in the home and whilst out in the community.



Behaviour Support

Staff are prepared and supported to manage situations and behaviour, and use clear and consistent boundaries to contribute to a feeling of well-being and security for children. Children and young people will be involved in creating ways to de-escalate and finding creative alternative strategies that are individualised and effective.



Behaviour Support

Maythorn staff promote positive behavior through positive reinforcement and encouragement. We firmly hold the belief that behavior is often a form of communication and as such look for strategies to support and enable more positive communication rather than the use of sanctions and consequences. We believe that a positive environment where young people's individuality is celebrated, clear boundaries and routines are in place and the team are committed to supporting their development is key to progression in this area.

Physical intervention is an absolute last resort, and all other options are explored before its use. As such, all staff will be trained in the Team Teach approach, which is updated annually by in-house trainers.

Team Teach guides skills including verbal and non-verbal communication, diversion and de-escalation and safe, effective, humane physical interventions. This aims to ensure the safety of the children, team and others, as well as a consistent approach. More information about the Team Teach ethos and approach can be found here:



Leadership and Management

Managers' details

The Registered Provider;

Central Bedfordshire Council

Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands
Shefford
SG17 5TQ

0300 300 8300

Managers' details

The Responsible Individual;

Tom Smith

Central Bedfordshire Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands
Shefford
SG17 5TQ

0300 300 4148

The Responsible Individual acts on behalf of the organisation and demonstrates to Ofsted how he/she meets the requirements for registration. The Responsible Individual must also demonstrate on behalf of the provider that the proposed establishment or agency can meet the relevant requirements set out in legislation.

The responsible individual is Tom Smith, Operations Manager for Residential Services

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I have managed children's homes within local authorities for 15 years and bring a strong understanding of the challenges which these services face, as well as a proactive approach to supporting the Registered Manager with the aspirations of their home. In addition to the Responsible Individuals duties, as Operations Manager I also have oversight of the development of local residential provision; looking at how we continue to develop these services to provide good outcomes for children and young people in our care.

”

The Registered Manager;

Deputy Manager;

Johura Moyeen
0300 300 6656

“

The position of Registered Manager is presently vacant. In the meantime, Rebecca Perry is offering interim management support and oversight. Rebecca serves as the Registered Manager for Maythorn's sister service, Kingfishers. Located in Houghton Regis, Kingfishers offers short breaks and long-term care for children with disabilities.

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“

I have over 10 years of experience working with children in both educational and social care settings. With a degree in Primary Education and a Level 5 qualification in Leadership and Management in children's homes, I have developed a broad understanding of how to effectively support young people's holistic needs. Since starting my role as a team leader at Maythorn, I have gained valuable insight into what it takes to provide comprehensive care. Now, as I step into the role of Deputy Manager, I look forward to working alongside a dedicated team to continue delivering the highest standard of care for the young people we support.

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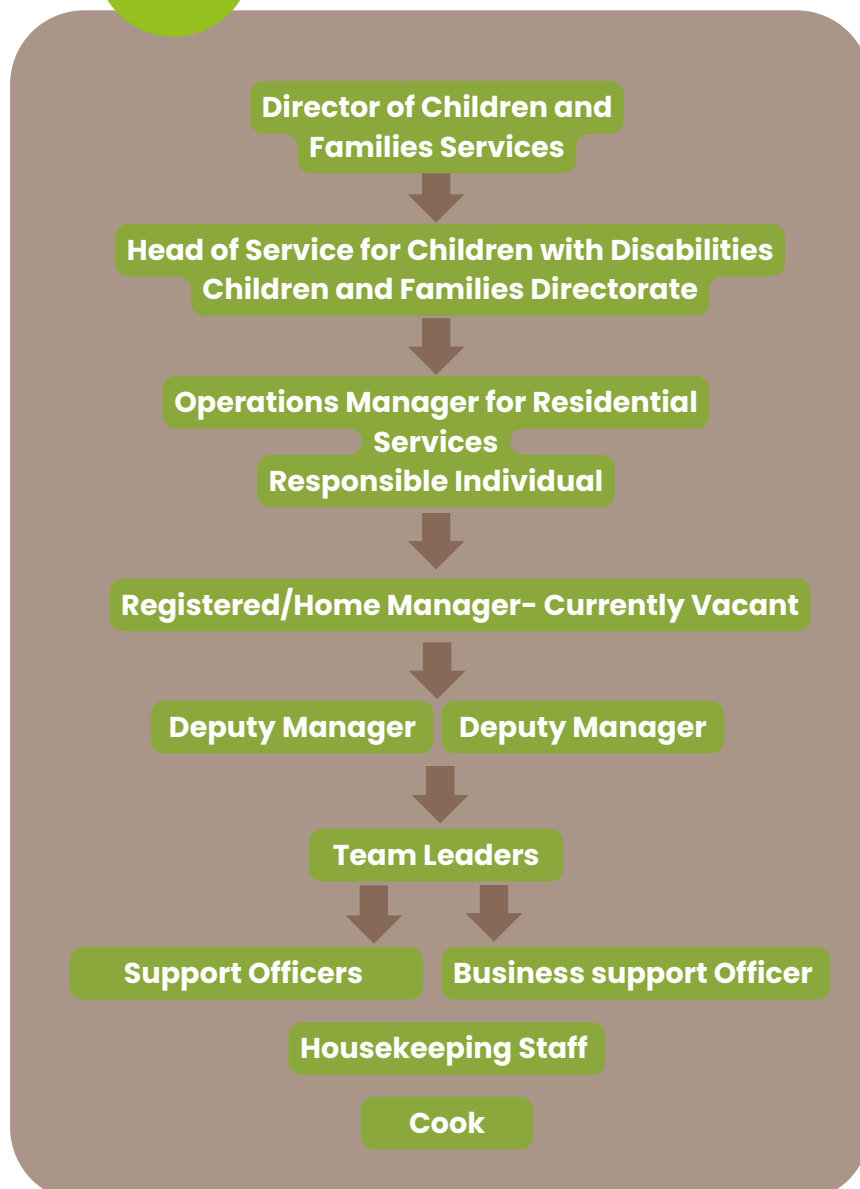
“

I hold a Nursing degree and a level 4 Assistant Practitioner qualification, with 18 years of experience in adult and child services. I am dedicated to providing high-quality care, focusing on young people and collaborating with families to ensure their safety and support for potential development. Since July 2020, I have been a Deputy Manager at a 30-bedded residential home in Leighton Buzzard and am eager to join the team on March 1st to work with families and professionals to help young people thrive and achieve their goals.

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Central
Bedfordshire

Staffing structure





Staffing structure

The Maythorn team includes a Manager, Deputy Manager, Team leaders, Support Officers, Domestic staff, Cook, and an Administrator.

Staff members are supervised on a monthly basis, during August this is usually informal due to the school holidays. Each staff member also has an annual review of their personal development called a 'Your Year'.

The manager receives supervision from their line manager and external supervision is an optional extra for those in management roles.

Training is available in house and externally to support staff development and is monitored through supervisions. The team can also access specialist support and advice from school and health professionals in relation to specific aspects of children's care.



Staff themselves are able to access the council's 'Health Assured' scheme which provides independent confidential advice and counselling. The management team at Maythorn operates an 'open door' policy for staff to discuss any issues.

Staffing levels are determined by the number of children in the home and accessing the short break services in order to ensure safe, positive support. The domestic staff work every morning Monday to Friday and the cook works a rota system to ensure they can prepare the evening meal and weekend meals. Maythorn has access to an online maintenance system to report maintenance needs that are actioned promptly by a team of professionals.

The Manager works in a hybrid manner Monday to Friday, and Deputy Manager work a combination of shifts and office days. Between the managers, they provide on-call support for staff, being available by phone for emergencies 24/7. Maythorn have a bank of relief staff to call upon, which provides consistency for the young people. Agency staff are only used as a last resort, and are sourced through a well-established, highly respected recruiter. No more than 50 % of the staff on duty at any one time are from an agency. All agency staff receive an induction to the home, and we would use the same agency staff regularly to promote consistency of practice and familiarity for the young people.



Support Officers experience and qualifications

All Support Officers, as a mandatory part of their role, are required to complete an NVQ in Health and Social Care- Diploma for Residential Childcare (England)(QCF) Level 3.

The Support Officers have experience in the following sectors and have <1 to 30+ years' experience within the Maythorn team

- Health
- Community nursing team
- Education
- Childcare provisions
- Play schemes
- Residential homes
- Direct payments
- Voluntary work

All Support Officers have completed mandatory training in:

Safeguarding Children with Disabilities level 2, Team Teach, Paediatric First Aid, Moving & Handling, External Medication administration, In- house Medication Administration, Epilepsy Awareness, Fire safety and Fire Warden, Infection Control, Health & Safety, Food Hygiene, GDPR, Equality & Diversity, COSHH, Information Security, Domestic Abuse Awareness and Fraud awareness & Closed Culture.

Day staff also drive the mini bus so need to complete and update driver training every 3 years.

Additional training includes Sensory Spectacle, Intensive Interaction, Responsive communication and The Soulihull Approach.

Within the team the following qualifications exist:

- Level 3 Diploma in Sports Sciences
- Level 4 Diploma in Childcare
- Safeguarding Diploma
- Psychology Diploma
- Qualified NVQ Assessor
- BSc (Hons)/BA (Hons) degrees in:

Criminology

Psychology

Psychology and Criminal Behaviour

Education & Fine Art

Occupational Therapy

Primary Education

Additionally we have staff working towards BSc (Hons) Degree in:

- Mental Health Nursing
- General Nursing

Our management team, including both deputies, hold a City & Guilds Level 5 (NVQ) Diploma in Leadership for Health and Social Care and Children's and Young People's Services (England)



Support Officers experience and qualifications

Kayleigh Hewson – Full Time Team Leader – I've worked with adults with learning disabilities for a number of years and decided that I wanted to be part of an experience where you promote and build on children's skills to give them a stronger future.

Jenny Baird – Full Time Team Leader – I have been a support officer at Maythorn since April 2023, and recently been offered the role of Team Leader, which I was thrilled to accept. It's been such a great experience learning what it means to be a support officer and key-worker and I'm looking forward to taking on the challenge of being a team leader. I love helping our young people to navigate and experience life. Maythorn feels like a big family and I'm happy to be a part of that.

David Eyotia – Full time Support Officer – I joined at Maythorn in March 2020 and I have over 10 years experience in working with children and adults with disabilities. I am extremely passionate about my job, I really enjoy it! I enjoy learning new things every day and never turn down a challenge. I am very much honoured to be a part of Maythorn family to help young people.

Julia Newman – Full Time Support Officer – I have worked in Adult Social Care for 17 years. I wanted to move to children services as I was looking for a new and exciting challenge. I still wanted to continue to make a difference to people's lives and thought that working with the young people at Maythorn was a great opportunity to do this. I have found all the staff at Maythorn to be very friendly and supportive and they all work brilliantly as a team. It's obvious to me that they are all dedicated to making a real difference in the young people's lives and go out of their way to provide the best possible care and support to each and every young person at Maythorn. I am proud to be part of this team.

Katauna Vaughn – Full Time Team Leader – I have worked at Maythorn for two years and have found it to be an amazing experience. To help the young people in our care live the happiest, fullest lives available to them is a privilege that I'm honoured to have. Every day something melts my heart or makes me laugh until I cry. It's truly a special place full of joy, incredible young people, and amazing staff who genuinely care. I'm halfway done with my NVQ level 3 and have 12 years' previous experience working with vulnerable children and adults. I look forward to growing in my knowledge and creating a safe, happy home for the young people who live at Maythorn.

Natasha Jaswal – Full Time Support Officer – I joined Maythorn after working with children with Autism for the past 5 years. Seeing the children grow and develop on a daily basis is such a reward. There is a massive family vibe at Maythorn. I couldn't imagine working anywhere else.

Tracy Norman – Full Time Support Officer – I have been working at Maythorn for 3 months now, it's such a wonderful place to work giving the young people we work alongside such amazing opportunities. I'm looking forward to gaining my level 3 in working with children in residential care.

Rilwan Alesinloye – Full Time Support Officer – I have worked in Adult social care for 3 years as a Care Assistant, I have gained valuable experience in providing compassionate, person-centred care. As I moved into my new role as a Support Officer, I bring deep commitment to safeguarding, advocacy, and fostering a supportive environment for children. My experience in care has equipped me with patience, empathy, and the ability to assess and respond to individual needs effectively. I am eager to apply these skills to positively impact the lives of young people in Maythorn, ensuring their voices are heard and their well-being remains a priority.



Support Officers experience and qualifications

Sian Plumb – Full Time Support Officer – I am an enthusiastic & dedicated professional, with a range of experience in custody support, Safeguarding young people, secure care, team management, and social care. I am looking forward to a new challenge that will allow me make an impact and play a significant part in the young people's journey.

Oluwafemi Adekoya – Full time support officer – In my previous role, I worked in a residential home with children who faced behavioural and emotional challenges. My job was to help them develop different strategies and provide a supportive and safe environment. I also have experience working in a mental health setting, where I supported Adults with mental challenges in staying safe, well-being and assisting them with their daily needs. I am passionate about creating a safe and caring space where young people feel understood and empowered. I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to and learn from the team at Maythorn.

Charlie Morrison – Part Time Support Officer – I joined Maythorn after working with children with Autism for the past 12 years in an educational setting. I am excited to apply my transferrable skills and become part of the Maythorn team.

Kirsty Graham – Part Time Support Officer – I have supported several of the young people from Maythorn in their educational setting for the past 3 years and am excited to join Maythorn and become part of the family, having worked closely with the team for some time.

Shadreck Nenowhe – Part Time Support Officer – I am a dedicated care giver experienced in working with patients in a hospital and care settings, I am committed to improving overall wellbeing and health through personal engagement and assisting people with daily living.

Sophie Fleming – Full Time Support Officer – My previous role was as a family partner in Early Help helping young people and families in the community with lots of different things, such as advice, training and dealing with schools and health professionals. Before this I worked 22 years in residential care homes looking after and caring for people.

I am looking forward to getting to know and helping the young people that live in and visit Maythorn.

Loretto Smith – Part time Support Officer – Loretto joined the team at Kingfishers, our sister service, in October 2015 following redeployment from a Residential Home for the elderly. Since then she has worked in another of our residential homes and has now settled here at Maythorn, she has proved a valuable addition to the team. 'I love my job here at Maythorn and being a part of a team that makes such a difference'

Oluwole Daniel – Part Time Support Officer – prior to joining Maythorn I worked as a support worker in various private healthcare settings and NHS hospitals. I have been privileged to support young individuals and adults with autism and other complex needs. I also work with young people with emotional challenges in my local community in the capacity of a clergy. I am passionate in supporting young people on their journey to fulfil their full potential in a person-centred approach. I enjoy working as a team and hold both NVQ 2 and 3 qualifications.

Anthony Codrington – Full Time Night Support Officer – temporary re deployment from other CBC children's service.

My background is in recruitment but I also have experience as a Youth Worker. I moved to working in adult services as night staff in 2014. Since then I have worked in other CBC homes, but am looking forward to furthering my knowledge and skills, and gaining experience working with Young People with disabilities.



Support Officers experience and qualifications

Sophie James– Relief Support Officer – I have worked for Central Bedfordshire Council for just under a year, previous to this I worked in a nursery school providing 1:1 support to children who have Special Educational Needs and Disability.

Thomas Catchpole – Relief Support Officer – I am currently a relief support officer for Maythorn. I am proud to be working for a children's residential home such as Maythorn, enabling and supporting these young people to grow, develop current and new life skills. It is great to see the confidence and happiness in these young people. I am undertaking an apprenticeship course in occupational therapy, an opportunity given to me by Maythorn.

Alina Bershadski– Relief Support Officer– As a new member of the Maythorn team, I hope to build on my 15 years' experience supporting individuals with learning and physical disabilities, complex needs and autism. My training in Dance and earlier experience within the performing arts sector enable me to offer a physical / sensory and therapeutic angle to my work (if required) while my qualifications in Public Relations and Social Work serve to "ground" me, consider the needs, views and experiences of others, accept and promote difference and embrace diversity. I hope to bring my passion for contributing to the wellbeing of others to my role at Maythorn.

Jake Whiteman– Relief Support Officer– I have a Level 4 qualification in Children, Young People and Families Practitioner. With over 10 years of experience in health and social care, I have spent 8 years supporting adults with learning disabilities and mental health needs, and the last 2 years working with young people who have experienced trauma before entering care. find great fulfilment in supporting young people I am dedicated to professional growth and delivering compassionate, consistent care.

Emily Atem – Relief Support Officer – I have and NVQ level 3 qualification. I have been at Maythorn since 2010 and have previous knowledge and experience of supporting children with complex physical disabilities.

Mandeep Kaur– Relief Support Officer– I have over 17 years of experience working with children with learning difficulties but also, challenging behaviour and hold a Level 3 diploma in residential care. I have worked in education and residential settings as well as supporting young people in play schemes. While working with children and young people, is it a rewarding and enjoyable experience, When working with children, every single day calls for different challenges, and for me, I find that the challenges motivate me in developing my skills.

Beth O'Neil– Relief Support Officer– I have 10 years' Experience of working with vulnerable adults and children I find this sector of work very rewarding and enjoyable. I previously worked at Maythorn, I decided to come back as it's such a lovely place to work. I have lots of knowledge and valuable experience. I have completed my NVQ level 3 and I am looking forward to being part of the maythorn family and supporting the young people to thrive and enjoy life.

Colleen Wood – Business Support – I have recently joined the Maythorn team having supported many of the children and families accessing the service as the Business Support Officer for the Children With Disabilities social care team. I bring this knowledge and experience to the Maythorn team and look forward to making a difference.

Tracy Field – Domestic – I have worked at Maythorn for a number of years. I have a good sense of humour and always manage to see the funny side of situations which is a bonus supporting the young people and staff team here. The young people have a super relationship with all the staff here at Maythorn and I work endlessly to ensure the home is clean and tidy for us all.



Promoting appropriate role models within the home

Our staff team is diverse in regard to gender, race, religion, sexuality and disability as such the team is able to provide role models from all walks of life with varieties of experiences and knowledge that they can share within the home.

We actively encourage meal times to be shared as a Maythorn Family to promote modelling of mealtime etiquette and routines. Staff refer to the young people as their Maythorn Family and do not shy away from showing the young people in our care love and genuine commitment. We implement practice guided from the Soulihull Approach in our day to day at Maythorn, modelling emotional health and well-being.

“The model is about the fundamentals of life...
how we relate to each other,
how we process our emotions
and how knowing about this makes a difference.”

Care Planning

Admissions to the home

All admissions to the home are planned and delivered in a child-focused manner. We will ensure that arrangements are followed to ensure a successful arrival, following a thorough matching exercise to ensure a positive peer group.

Referrals to Maythorn are made via Central Bedfordshire Council's Children With Disabilities panel. Following a decision on agreed services, Maythorn will conduct a matching exercise for residential placements, or an assessment period for short break services upon receiving their short breaks plan from the social care team. Matching exercises and assessment period are tailored to the individual in order to support a positive placement for the young person, whilst ensuring that we can respond effectively to their assessed needs.

Maythorn works closely with the Children with Disabilities Social Care team model to ensure that all cases are managed and reviewed in accordance with legal and statutory requirements and CBC policies.

Emergency admissions

Maythorn does not provide for emergency admissions. However, there may be occasions when it is in the best interest of a child or young person already receiving a short break service to access a residential placement due to unforeseen circumstances. In the event of this occurring, we would complete a matching exercise and have a thorough support plan already in place.

Finding out more

If you would like further copies, a large-print copy or information about us and our services, please contact us at our address below.

per informazione

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معلومات

pour information

Informacija

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para sa impormasyon

para información



Maythorn

The Baulk
Biggleswade
Bedfordshire
SG18 0PT



0300 300 4050



johura.moyeen@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk



**Central
Bedfordshire**

Children with disabilities service

Children with disabilities service is a specialist service that offers support to children with...

 [centralbedfordshire.gov.uk /](https://centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/)