

## **Statement of Purpose**

# Juno Wallasey

### February 2025

URN: 2783439





This Statement of Purpose is written in accordance with the regulatory requirements of the Care Standards Act 2000, The Quality Standards, Regulations for Children's Homes 2015 and fully Incorporates the Amendments to the Children's Homes Regulations January 2014.

The Statement of Purpose is regularly reviewed considering changing practices, new legislation, and inspection recommendations. A copy of this statement is provided to:

OFSTED Piccadilly Gate Store Street Manchester M1 2WD

A copy is available to:

- Employees of Juno
- Each child/young person residing at Juno Wallasey (a child/young person friendly version)
- Parents/carers of any child/young person resident at the home
- The placing authority/agency of any child accommodated at the home

Our aims at Juno are grounded in a consultation that was carried out with care-experienced children and young people across the Liverpool City Region. All of our homes aim to provide:

- Homely environments which look and feel like a family home, with spaces that children can call their own, in safe neighbourhoods ideally within reach of where they grew up
- Care given by a diverse team of emotionally intelligent, loving care practitioners who are trustworthy, warm, and approachable
- A qualified and experienced Registered Manager who ensures that children are placed at the heart of everything we do
- Connections for children and young people, both to their family and friends and to the communities in which they live.



Welcome to Juno Wallasey, the second of a planned network of high-quality, not-for-profit homes being developed across the Liverpool City Region.

#### The Quality and Purpose of our Care

At Juno Wallasey, we aim to learn from our initial project Juno Oxton and continue to develop our vision to provide brilliant care homes for local children who are looked after. We provide a home environment where children feel safe, well supported, and loved. To that end, we focus on the following objectives:

- Children should feel physically and psychologically safe in our care.
- Children should be supported to develop meaningful relationships with our team, as well as their friends, family and people who matter to them most.

We will provide children and young people with safety, supportive relationships, and a nurturing environment that provides the foundations to grow and thrive.

Through robust recruitment processes, quality training and a commitment to continued staff development, we will create a team of experienced, knowledgeable practitioners who are emotionally intelligent, with a good understanding of attachment theory and trauma that helps them be available, consistent, considerate practitioners.

The outcomes we work towards for children in our care are:

- The ability to make, maintain and develop positive attachments and relationships
- Improvements in mental health and emotional wellbeing
- A positive self-image and enhanced self-esteem
- The highest possible level of academic and/or vocational achievement
- The ability to recognise risk and make safe, positive choices
- The pursuit of hobbies, talents, and wider interests

Juno Wallasey is a mixed gender home and can accommodate up to 4 children aged 10-17 years. This wide age range is intended to allow for sibling groups to be placed together where appropriate. Our skilled staff team are supported by a Clinical Psychologist (please see Point 14), making this a suitable home for children with emotional and behavioural difficulties.

Matching decisions in relation to the admission of children and young people will be made by the RM in partnership with the RI, following discussion with key adults in the child's life. We will ensure that our staff team's skills are a good match for a child's particular needs and source additional training and support where identified, in relation to any specific needs of children. We also discuss matching with the social workers of all children who are already live with us, to identify and plan for any potential impact.



We will accept planned placements only, however, will aim to expedite decisions about matching which are as timely as possible. We aim to offer long term placements, looking after children until they are ready to leave care.



Our work will be monitored, scrutinised, inspected and evaluated from a variety of perspectives: The Registered Manager, RI and sessional Clinical Psychologist will meet regularly to review the progress of children in terms of recovery from trauma and emotional distress. The RI will closely monitor the quality of care in the home, supported by Juno's Director of Operations. Our Reg 44 visitor will conduct robust inspections that will lead to challenges and learning on our part. Our Reg 44 visitor is Laura Navis, from Elmwood SW Consultancy Ltd. Laura is qualified social worker and a Service Manager of an Assessment Service within a Children's Social Care Team. As a Social Worker and as a SW Consultant/Independent Expert, she has experience of safeguarding social work from initial referral through to child protection, PLO processes and initiating care proceedings as well as managing cases through court proceedings and the latter looked after process. Our Experts by Experience group scrutinise our recruitment process and our premises before the homes open and have input into design, décor and layout.

We will also work in partnership with children, their families and Local Authorities. We will always work closely with partner agencies, services and professionals to meet children's individual needs and requirements. We will arrange interpreters and special tuition for children whose first language is not English in partnership with the Local Authority and Education Services.

#### About the Home

Located in Wallasey in the North-Eastern corner of the Wirral Peninsula, the home is a beautifully renovated family home over three floors. It is situated in a welcoming residential area close to local amenities and just a short walk from the sea front.

We have a large sitting area on the ground floor, a smaller lounge, a lovely dining area and a decent sized conservatory. In these spaces, children can relax, watch TV, complete homework, engage in activities with staff and each other or just chill. There is also a designated room upstairs that will be developed into a young people's space in line with the children's wishes and interests.

There are four ensuite bedrooms for children at Juno Wallasey across the 2 upper floors. Each child will be supported to choose their own colour schemes, bedding, soft furnishings, rugs, throws and posters to ensure they feel comfortable in their own space prior to moving in or shortly after.



On arrival into the home, each child will receive a welcome bundle consisting of appropriate items for their age and development such as toys, books, toiletries and stationery. They will also be consulted around items in their bedroom such as a TV, study desk and shelving so that they can have a space of their own when wanting to relax, read, stream films and TV programmes or just have some alone time.

Children will have Wi-Fi access at set times throughout the day and early evening to ensure they can complete homework tasks and access gaming/online activities as appropriate and this will be turned off soon after bedtime, to support healthy routines and to promote a good sleep diet.

The conservatory at the back of the home, opens out on to a large patio area in the back garden, with steps down to a lawned area and a further decked patio space at the rear. These seating areas make for



a beautiful eating area in the warmer months as well as offering space for relaxation and activities, where children can enjoy the benefits of the outdoors and its positive impact on wellbeing. We have established planting areas in both the front and back gardens, where children can grow their own plants if they wish. The home manger Lisa Collins is a budding gardener and looks forward to sharing this hobby with the children and staff team. There are also plans to develop a vegetable patch for growing our own food and a designated wildlife area to entice the local wildlife. The conservatory area is a good space for visiting professionals to meet with children and their staff team, and there is also a garden room to offer further privacy for meetings, family time and visits where required.

There are two allocated staff bedrooms for sleep-in shifts with office space, and a large family bathroom for staff and children to access.

The home is within walking distance of the sea front and Wallasey Beach and is on the main bus route into Birkenhead Town Centre. There are local convenience stores within a half mile radius and a main shopping centre with a supermarket and a variety of local amenities at nearby Liscard Village. Merseyrail Stations that provide connections to the rest of Wirral, Liverpool, and North Wales are within 1.5 miles of the home.

Local primary and secondary schools are within 1.5 miles and consist of single and mixed sex entry with a range of extra-curricular activities. The local mixed and single sex secondary schools offer Sixth Form provision and there are several colleges and training providers locally for school leavers. There is an integrated Youth Hub that has a youth and activity club as well as cadet schemes associated with local emergency services including the local Fire Service at nearby Liscard Community Fire Station. There are also several leisure and sports centres in the area and Wirral's natural and free resources include 16 leisure and wildlife beaches, 2 rivers and the Irish Sea, as well as more than 30 parks and nature reserves.

#### Leadership and Management

- The registered provider is We Are Juno CIC 3A Queen Insurance Building, 24 Queen Avenue, Liverpool L2 4TZ
- The Responsible Individual is Sophie Clarke, at the same contact address
- The Registered Manager is Lisa Collins, at the same contact address.

**Lisa Collins** (Registered Manager) is an experienced residential care manager and holds a Level 5 Diploma in Leadership and Management in Children's Residential Care. She has worked with children and families for over 15 years. Lisa has a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Hons' Degree in Primary Education with specialisms in SEN and PSHCE Education. She holds a PG Diploma in Child and Family Systemic Social Work Practice and is registered with Social Work England. She also has a PG Diploma in Psychological Therapies for Conduct Disorder awarded by The Greater Manchester Mental Health Institute and The University of Manchester.

Lisa's practice is strengths based, and relational, she is passionate about raising standards of care for children and young people and fully recognises the important, complex, and amazing role children's care staff play in supporting children and young people to feel safe and make excellent progress through secure relationships. Lisa is an experienced leader, focussed on developing staff and services



to provide excellent care and support to improve children's outcomes and is looking forward to developing Juno Wallasey into a safe, fun home where children can thrive, and staff feel valued and well supported.

**Sarah Dimmelow** (Director of Operations and RI for Oxton Home) joined Juno in January 2024, she supports and supervises all Registered Managers. Sarah has developed and led services supporting children, families and individuals for approximately thirty years, mainly within commissioned services in both the voluntary and private sector. She has been a Responsible Individual for regulated services including adoption and fostering. Sarah is an experienced social care leader and holds a Certificate in Social Care Leadership and a Certificate in Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy.

**Sophie Clarke** (Responsible Individual) is Juno's Managing Director as well as the RI. Sophie has led the design and development of We are Juno CIC since its outset and line manages the senior team. Sophie spent the first phase of her career working directly with Children Looked After at The Reader, and the eleven years she spent in the third sector developed her expertise in safeguarding, service design (children and families), quality improvement and effective leadership.

In more recent years, she has led the design of impactful services for children and families, working closely with communities, Local Authorities, youth organisations and funders. She is an experienced senior leader with a good understanding of the law, guidance and regulation relating to Children Looked After and Children's Homes.

**Paula Walsh** (Care Manager) whilst awaiting the registration and opening of Juno's 3<sup>rd</sup> Home Juno New Brighton, Paula is supporting the Manager and team at Wallasey. Paula is welcoming of the opportunity to get experience and a deep understanding of the operational aspects of Juno as a new service and has very quickly become a valued part of the team. Paula's previous experience as an RM has meant she has been a great asset to the home and her skills in supporting staff welfare and development have made a great impact on the service to date.

#### <u>The Team</u>

At Juno Wallasey, we will recruit a diverse group of individuals, including a Deputy Manager, 2 Senior Social Care Practitioners and 6 Social Care Practitioners. The Deputy and Senior staff will act as Shift Leaders to ensure the quality of care provided to our children and young people. The staff will work a long day shift with a sleep-in, on a 1 on 2 off rota basis, to allow for plenty of rest days. This shift pattern has been developed to replicate a homely environment and to support positive relationships within the home, with minimal transitions throughout the day. The Manager will work a variety of shifts to ensure she has oversight of the home and is aware of how it functions outside of normal office hours. The



Responsible Individual will visit regularly to ensure that children, young people and staff are happy with the way we are caring for them.

The team of Social Care Practitioners at Juno Wallasey will be supported and led by the Home's Registered Manager Lisa Collins and their Deputy. The team will work to create a nurturing space in which the children have the potential to learn about positive relationships and develop a sense of safety and improved wellbeing. We also employ a sessional Clinical Psychologist who will support the team to meet young people's needs and provide direct support where appropriate.

#### **Practitioners**

**Mark Delaney** (Deputy Manager) As a newly appointed, suitably qualified Deputy Manager, Mark has a strong background in care and support, with a focus on relational and trauma informed practice towards providing a professional care service to children who have experienced developmental trauma and may present with dysregulated and challenging behaviours. With extensive training and a proven background in crisis prevention and intervention techniques., Mark enjoys supporting children to learn to better process and respond to difficult and overpowering feelings and responses that may be impacting their lives. Mark has recently completed Level 4 in Leadership and Management of young people and children and is focused on ensuring each child in his care receives the best possible outcomes from a team who are well supported to provide the best care available to meet each young person's specific needs. Mark has spent time teaching children in both China and the Philippines, and which has given him a deep understanding of meeting children's cultural needs and identity. In his free time, Mark enjoys (sometimes) hiking in the mountains of Wales and keeping fit in the gym.

**Paige Allton** (Senior Social Care Practitioner) is an experienced social care practitioner, having worked in an LD provision for just under 2 years previously. Paige is passionate about child centred practice and is focused on developing her reflective practice skills, she feels her own personal lived experiences support her to develop meaningful relationships with young people. Having recently completed L3/4 Apprenticeship Children, Young People & Families (Residential Pathway) Paige has grown in confidence in the Senior Role and is an integral part of the team and effective Chosen Practitioner to one of our young people.

**Jennifer McGuire** (Social Care Practitioner) has 10 years' experience supporting children in education settings where she gained NVQ Level 3 Support Teaching and Learning qualification. Jen also has two years' experience within children's residential care and is working towards gaining Level 4 Children, Young People & Families Practitioner (Residential Pathway) Apprenticeship. Jen sees it as a privilege to be working with children we look after. As part of the team at Juno, she is committed to making a real difference in the lives of vulnerable children and young people. Jen is motivated by providing a safe, nurturing environment where children can feel supported, understood, and empowered to overcome any challenges they face. Jen strives to be an advocate and positive influence, helping children build self-esteem, resilience and hope for their future and is developing in her role as chosen Practitioner to one of our young people.



**Lea Cherry** (Senior Social Care Practitioner) – has joined Juno Wallasey with two years' experience supporting children and young people with Learning Disabilities, including ASD. Amy gained her L3/4 Apprenticeship in Children, Young People & Families (Residential Pathway) during this time. She has also worked as a support worker in an SEN school and led a creative writing group for children and young people, which ignited a passion for supporting children and young people in creative ways. Amy is also studying Level 4 Psychology and plans to continue to develop her skills and knowledge, in order to support the children and young people in our care as best she can. Lea is also studying Advanced Psychology in her spare time and is is looking forward to further study in this area.

**Chloe Berry** (Social Care Practitioner) - joined Juno Wallasey early this year (2025). She has supported young people in residential settings for over a year, as a bank worker during and after completing her undergraduate Degree in Physiotherapy. Chloe really enjoys making a positive change to children's lives and is hoping to use her degree to complete a Child Health related Masters in the future. At University, Chloe was a Mental Health Ambassador where she supported secondary aged children around positive mental health and wellbeing. Chloe enjoys bringing a creative approach to her work with children and supporting them to express themselves through making art including clay art.

**Jessica Lovell** (Bank Social Care Practitioner) With an MA in Psychology and several years' experience as an Agency Staff Member previously, Jess enjoys working across Wallasey and our sister home supporting our children through providing effective, consistent care. With a sound knowledge in Juno's Care Model, particularly around child centred, trauma informed Care, Jess has completed all mandatory training and was involved in much of the early team building activities and training from set up of Juno Wallasey and has developed great relationships within the team and more recently with the children.

We will utilise staff from our first home, Juno Oxton and pool of Bank workers to cover holidays and sickness where required, and we will only use Agency workers as a last resort; these staff will be supervised on shift by the Home's Deputy, Seniors or the Home's Manager, to ensure continued quality of care. Relief staff will be supervised regularly.

Our recruitment processes are robust, and designed to ensure our staff are resilient, hold our core values, are nurturing, strengths-based in their work and understand the impact of trauma. The process includes an initial "getting to know you" discussion, a formal interview and an assessment day or shift supervised within the home to allow children and young people to provide feedback. These processes are all underpinned by safer recruitment. Our care-experienced Young Leaders are also involved in the interview stage, and screen candidates based on their own experiences and values. We have clear protocols in place for checking references, employment history, qualifications and suitability.



Staff undergo a one-month induction period which includes mandatory training and Level 2 Team Teach de-escalation and intervention training. We use reflective supervision to consolidate learning and to identify gaps in knowledge/further learning needs.

There is an Out of Hours on call rota for Managerial Support, advice and oversight where required, the Home's Manager has a flexible approach to providing support to the team remotely or onsite during unsociable hours where required.

The team all receive individual and group supervision sessions with their manager, these will be weekly initially, moving to 4-6 weekly following induction and successful probationary periods. The Registered Manager will use reflective models of supervision to continually improve practice and support the staff team to develop against their own goals and targets and to address any areas for development in their practice. Group and peer supervision will focus on supporting the team to continually strive to meet children and young people's needs and outcomes and to understand that staff's own development as ongoing and crucial to continually improved quality of care. The team will be encouraged to express any training needs as required, and staff debriefs will take place following all incidents in the home to provide space to review, reflect, and make any relevant changes as required in the home or to children's plans.

We aim for continuous learning and development and the Home's Workforce Development Plan will play a pivotal role in setting out the aims for continued improvement and development of the home and team. We will invest in our staff to support them to continually improve practice and to recognise the importance of self-development and self-care in meeting the needs of others. Each member of staff will have a yearly appraisal, to ensure that the team are operating at the highest level of professionalism and can provide the most positive experience for our children and young people. The appraisals will allow for staff to explore their own personal and professional development within Juno as the service continues to grow and develop in line with our vision of providing exceptional homes across the Region.

We recognise the importance of maintaining consistency in caregiving and relationships for children and young people, and to that end, we offer benefits to staff for continued service including additional Annual Leave, a generous sickness policy after probation, regular training and support and development opportunities as we grow. We recognise the importance of recruiting upwards from within the service and will invest in our staff to become the leaders of the future.

Juno also provides a therapeutic support service for practitioners to help them manage the emotional impact of the role. The Psychotherapist providing this support is Melanie Smith (Qualifications BA Hons Psychotherapy and Counselling) from bMindful, who will offer Clinical Supervision for the team. Mel Smith receives Clinical Supervisions with from Clinical Psychologist, Dr Stuart Hepworth, also from bMindful.

All policies and procedures are available to the staff through the company intranet and via the hard copy that is kept updated in the office. Staff are always made aware when policies have been reviewed or updated and reference to policies is made during monthly supervisions and team meetings.

For anyone outside of the Home, all policies and procedures will be available on the Juno website once this is reconfigured for the opening of homes. Printed copies will also be available through written contact with the Responsible Individual. See Annexe B for further staffing structure and qualifications.



#### **Positive Relationships**

At Juno Wallasey we maintain a positive approach to behaviour support. The home's manager is experienced in providing training and interventions to parents and carers to support children's positive behaviour change and in supporting improvements in children and young people's mental health and wellbeing for children with Special Educational Needs, ASD/ADHD, and Conduct Disorders.



In line with our positive approach to behaviour support, we will implement consequences appropriately, as a last resort when other approaches have not been successful in supporting positive behaviour change. This is to ensure children who have experienced significant rejection and/or trauma are not retraumatised and feel able learn and develop in a safe, nurturing, non-judgemental and loving environment.

In terms of surveillance, there are no security cameras within the home. When the staff retire to bed, we activate sensors on the front and back door, and movement sensors in the hallway and on each landing as additional security, to keep everyone safe and alert the staff team if anyone leaves the home or may need staff support through the night.

We firmly believe that young people should be able to maintain positive relationships with their families, friends and others who play a significant role in their lives. We actively promote good quality, safe contact between parents, extended family and friends and the children we look after, in line with any Court Orders. We will work hard to make all forms of agreed and permitted Family Time a meaningful positive experience for young people, including offering coaching to them and their family/friends about how to utilise family time effectively and in a safe manner. When a young person's Family Time has to be supervised, this will be undertaken by the local commissioned Supervised Contact service. Juno Wallasey will have regard for Family Time being a safe and enjoyable experience for the child whilst meeting the arrangements made by the placing authority. Where appropriate staff will monitor family time within the home or in the community, providing reports to the child's social worker as required.

All of our team are encouraged to develop links and networks with the wider community and build partnerships that enable children to feel part of and contribute to their local community.

#### **Protection of Children**

We create a caring environment in which everyone, children, young people, members of the team, relatives or professionals are aware of their responsibilities to others and the respect they can expect to receive in return. To promote the safety and well-being of children and young people, Juno Wallasey has an identified Designated Safeguarding Officer, details of which are posted within the home and communicated to staff, young people, parents and carers (where appropriate). Safeguarding procedures



including reporting and recording, and Allegations Management/LADO procedures are covered in staff training and induction.

Structure and boundaries are important in providing a safe and secure environment for our children and young people and we recognise that these should be clear, fair and consistently applied and promoted in a positive way. A climate of mutual respect between the team and children and young people will help to nourish relationships and have the potential to diffuse challenging situations and negative behaviour. We actively use techniques from Restorative Justice to deal with issues within the home with the agreement of all parties involved.

No form of bullying is tolerated, under any circumstances, by any person employed or accommodated in our home. We will address bullying at an early stage to prevent potential victimisation, to limit the negative impact on those who have previously experienced bullying and to reduce the chances of bullying behaviour becoming the norm in later life. We will support victims of bullying to feel safe, whilst supporting children who bully to make positive change through restorative practices, in line with the victim's wishes.

All observed and/or reported incidents of bullying will be recorded on daily record sheets and incident reports. Records will provide details of the team interventions and outcomes, and any changes and/or updates made to children's plans and key documents.

The team have a responsibility to provide support for the victim of bullying by.

- Taking reports of bullying seriously and treating them with respect
- Reassuring them that they are not to blame.
- Providing information and explanation on Complaints Procedures
- Giving consistent messages that bullying is unacceptable.
- Creating systems for early identification

At Juno Wallasey, we recognise behaviour as a communication of needs that should be responded to accordingly. Not all behaviours are a matter of 'choice' and not all factors linked to the behaviour of children are within their control. We will always work around the ethos of de-escalation and only use physical intervention when truly necessary as a last resort to safeguard children, young people and others.

We will devise clear and concise behaviour management plans to give the team consistent strategies on how best to support children and young people when they feel low, upset, or angry. Children and young people participate in the creation of their own plans to ensure they experience consistent, effective responses that help them feel safe. Children and young people are given every opportunity to air their views, opinions, and thoughts in relation to behaviour.

Situations resulting in the use of physical intervention or restraint will be recorded accurately and in full and a Restraints Log will be kept. Staff will be trained in Team Teach Level 2 de-escalation and physical intervention approaches prior to working with children and young people to ensure the safety of care. This training will be refreshed 2 yearly alongside interim refresher sessions as required. Young people will be consulted following any restraint, offered medical attention, and given the opportunity to express their views.



Restraint records will provide a clear and detailed account of the incident and procedures followed. These records are open to independent scrutiny. The home's manager will review and sign all incidents and recorded restraints, with a focus on discussing these incidents afterwards with the young person(s) involved and checking whether they wish to make comment or a complaint. All incidents involving restraint will be reviewed and debriefed, with an emphasis on learning from each individual incident to improve the quality of care provided.

It is important to recognise that restraint can impact relationships between children and their care team. Staff will work hard to support and repair any ruptured relationships and ensure young people feel safe and able to learn and develop self-regulation and self-soothing techniques to manage BIG emotions that they may be experiencing. All incidents will be reviewed with the goal of learning how to do things better next time.

Staff will be trained in identifying and reducing the risk of Child Exploitation including criminal and sexual exploitation. The team will work with children and young people to reduce their vulnerabilities around such risks and work effectively with partner agencies including Police and Local Authorities to keep them safe. All staff will be trained to an advanced level in local and regional protocols, identification, disruption, and protection.

#### **Risk Taking**

In addressing the issue of risk-taking, the team at Juno Wallasey acknowledges that all children/young

people explore and take risks as a part of healthy child development whilst growing up to help them to discover, define, and develop their abilities and identity.

However, it is important to appreciate the difference between positive or healthy risk-taking (e.g. sports, outdoor pursuits and making new friends) and negative or dangerous risk-taking behaviours, (e.g. smoking, going missing from care and inappropriate friendships or relationships). In promoting an appropriate balance in relation to risk-taking, staff, have an important part to play in supporting our children and young people in this respect. Our team will:

• Help children and young people evaluate risks and anticipate the consequences of their choices



- Help children and young people identify healthy opportunities for risk-taking. Experience of healthy risk-taking can prevent unhealthy risk-taking
- Be self-aware regarding their own risk-taking behaviours and recognise the importance of modelling positive choices.

A full and comprehensive set of risk assessments will be developed covering all aspects of our work including the use of premises, equipment, company vehicles and on-site and off-site activities and visits. All staff will be well informed regarding relevant plans and documentation pertaining to the children



residing in the home, including joint risk assessments for activities involving groups of children and staff. The Home's Manager and Deputy will ensure staff are made aware of any updates or reviews in relation to risks, and daily handovers will highlight changes made in response to incidents and /or activities.

We recognise that staff will make dynamic Risk Assessments on an on-going basis, within the home and community, and make decisions on the basis of those assessments in conjunction with the children and young people's plans.

#### Views, Wishes and Feelings

The team and managers at Juno Wallasey aim to create an environment where daily interactions with children and young people promote and invite views, wishes and opinions to be expressed in the safety and knowledge that they will be listened to, taken seriously, respected, and always valued. We focus on discussing with children and young people what they need. Decisions that they will be encouraged to make include designing changes to their home, planning free time, 'social prescribing' their wellbeing activities and being consulted in all planning and strategic discussions. We will also support and encourage children to have input into their own care planning and advocate on their behalf with partners where necessary.

In addition to the statutory reviews that take place, the Home Manager will ensure that an informal monthly review takes place with each child or young person. Here, with people they have chosen to invite, they can discuss their wishes and we can offer praise, support, and acknowledgement of the young person's progress each month. Together we can make plans for the month ahead, agree reachable targets and identify any specific wishes or needs the child or young person may have. This information is recorded and becomes the basis of work set for every member of the team in reaching high, focusing on strengths, and achieving positive outcomes.

The various in-house reviews aim to

- safeguard and prevent risks
- listen to what children and young people tell us
- discuss all areas of care
- reflect on what has happened previously to make plans
- set targets and goals to move forward
- ensure children and young people have agency and make choice for themselves and their lives
- update information and ensure effective recording.

The child's allocated and/or chosen practitioner will take the lead on regularly ensuring children's views, wishes and feelings are sought and acted on, they will also advocate on behalf of the children and young people to empower them to engage in their care planning as well as the development of the home. Children and young people are encouraged to recognise and respect individual differences, particularly in respect of ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender and disability, with activities, positive role modelling by staff, discussions and school projects promoting a greater understanding and acceptance of others. We encourage children towards critical thinking in this and other areas of their lives. We also focus on



culture and identity in their individualised plans and where relevant, age-appropriate methods of exploring the past and their identity.

The Children's Rights that we uphold are those enshrined in the UNCRC for all children under 18 years old, to: life and development, liberty, privacy and dignity, to a decent standard of living, to an education that develops their ability and talents, to freedom of thought and belief, freedom of association with other children.

We recognise religion and culture are personal preferences; we will always respect these in the home. Children and young people will be supported to pursue their religious and cultural beliefs through attending appropriate services and receiving the relevant instruction, if this is something that is important to them. As an organisation, we will work hard to welcome all differences and ensure that no one feels excluded by our practices. We will celebrate and uphold religious and cultural festivals recognised by all our children and young people and support and celebrate their individuality and differences. The full team will always help and support children and young people to increase their own awareness of their identity and culture. Everyone working in the home will be trained, monitored and supported by management to ensure equality of opportunity and to raise awareness of unconscious bias in decision making.

Any child and young person in the care of Juno Wallasey or any stakeholder, team member or visitor can make a complaint about any aspect of our practice. Children and young people are given information about how to complain through the young person's guide, which is made available to them before they move in. Complaints should be addressed to the Registered Manager (or the Responsible Individual if the complaint is about the Registered Manager).

Children and young people will have the opportunity to go through any issue that may be concerning them with a member of our team, our managers, independent advocates, Local Authority Social Workers, the Children's Commissioner for England or whomever they choose. We will always respect complaints, act, and give explanations on updates and decisions made. Complaints can help improve our practice and guide present and future policy, improve knowledge, and show everyone invested in the success of the home that we will always listen and respond to their views and needs.

All policies and procedures are available to the staff through the company intranet and via the hard copy that is kept updated in the staff office. The team will be made aware when policies have been reviewed or updated and reference to policies will be made throughout the induction process, as part of staff probation and ongoing during monthly staff supervisions and team meetings. For anyone outside of the Home, all policies and procedures will be available on the Juno website and printed copies will also be available through written contact with the Responsible Individual.

#### **Care Planning**

An extensive, careful, and individualised matching process is completed for each child to ensure that any current children and young people living at the home will be matched with the referred young person. We ensure that the team at the home has the required training and skills to be able to offer appropriate, targeted support before any placement is offered.



A part time Clinical Psychologist works alongside our Registered Manager to guide practice and strategies for supporting children's emotional wellbeing, making this a suitable home for children experiencing emotional and behavioural difficulties

Each young person living at Juno Wallasey will have a Placement Plan, which clearly sets out how their assessed needs are to be met by the placement on a day-to-day basis. This plan is written in consultation with the placing Local Authority and the young person. Monitored by the young person's chosen worker/s and approved by the Registered Manager, it is a live document that is regularly updated and takes into account any changes approved at the young person's Statutory Review, in discussion with the Local Authority social worker. The young people have access and input into these plans.

The team at Juno will always work in line with all children and young people's placement plans. All our working practices are in accordance with individual needs and in partnership with placing authorities. The needs of individual children are likely to change and there will be an ongoing assessment to facilitate changes, working with all relevant agencies.

Staff will have a comprehensive knowledge of each child or young person and be aware of their own responsibility in ensuring each child or young person's social, emotional, educational and health needs are met.

The management team will work with children and young people to review the care received, allowing children and young people to tell us what we need to do, what they like, and any requests and discussions regarding the quality of care and support at the home.

#### **Enjoyment and Achievement**

Children and young people living at Juno Wallasey will be supported to take part and benefit from a variety of activities that meet their needs and development, and reflect their cultural, creative,

intellectual, physical and social interests and skills. We do this to help each child develop their interests and hobbies and to further expand their interests to make a positive, lasting contribution to the home and wider community.

Children and young people will be encouraged to arrange activities for themselves, meeting their friends and using local community resources. Our team will also organise activities on an individual basis and as part of a group. We support young people to take measured and managed risks in line with their placement plan, and try to allow for a degree of spontaneity, recognising that this is a natural part of growing up.





Children will also be encouraged to choose and take part in activities that make them feel happy, relaxed, and more confident, as part of our "Social Prescribing" wellbeing initiative. Choices might include gym membership, singing lessons, horse riding, dancing, hiking, or DJ equipment; whatever the young person feels will speak to their interests and hobbies. We will check that partner staff/instructors are suitably qualified and vetted. We will support the child to attend these activities as often as they wish whilst encouraging them to try new things if they change their mind and wish to change direction, ass children can often do.

#### Education

We recognise the importance of education and will support children and young people to reach their full potential and make measurable progress, whilst seeking to foster a positive attitude to continued lifelong learning and development. The team will offer to transport all children and young people to their respective schools or support their independent travel if appropriate. We will be working closely with a young person's school or education provider to ensure that they are able to work to their maximum potential and that any barriers to learning that the child may face are addressed appropriately. We will work closely with the CLA Educational Support Team and Virtual School Head to ensure that we are kept up to date with all aspects of the young person's education and provide early support and intervention where required. In the absence of parents' involvement, we will always take the role in attending parents' evenings, school meetings and progress discussions on behalf of the child or young person.

We will support all children and young people to continue to attend the educational establishment that they were attending prior to coming into our care where feasible. We recognise that a young person will be undergoing major changes in their life and their education should not suffer because of this. By staying in the same school, a young person can maintain a level of continuity in a period of change. If it is not possible to remain at their previous school, then our team will work to obtain the most suitable new school placement, alongside other agencies. We will always support young people towards their desired goals for their future and work alongside them and the Local Authority to ensure access to quality post 16 provision, whether that consists of formal/informal education, vocational training, or employment.

We will hold copies of young person's Personal Education Plans/EHC Plan's and will attend and encourage young people to contribute in all review meetings when held. Informal learning will be embedded into the structure and routines in place at the home. This should support children and young people to embrace learning in a positive manner and help our team to work alongside them to enrich their learning opportunities, in an informal and creative way. The child's allocated and/or chosen practitioner will take the lead in updating all education plans in line with reviews and meetings to ensure consistency and in-depth knowledge of where each child is at in their education journey with oversight from the home's Manager and Deputy.

The team will reiterate the message that their education is important through meetings with the young person and will work hard to be involved and become educational advocates for all at the home. Attendance at schools, colleges and other educational facilities is promoted by all at Juno and encouragement and support are given to all children and young people in relation to homework tasks



and researching relevant projects. Children and young people have access to a designated firewalled computer where they can have quiet time to complete schoolwork or research study materials.

If there are any delays or problems with providing education for children and young people, The Home's Manager will set up informal home-schooling by our staff or through external tutors to provide Core Subject lessons and activities to mitigate any impact of delays in securing appropriate educational placements. We will also consider the commissioning of individual tutoring for exam preparation where needed.

#### Health

Each child has a written Health Plan as part of their overall Placement Plan, which outlines the specific details of their health needs, and ensures that all staff working with the young person are aware of the strategies adopted to meet these needs. A daily log is completed on all health-related information for each child which is held in the child's individual health file. A written record is kept of all illnesses, accidents, and injuries that might be incurred by the young person during their placement and any appropriate reports will be made under RIDDOR guidelines. Staff are trained in First Aid and the Safe Administration and Recording of Medication to ensure any individual or emerging health needs of children are met. All prescribed and none-prescribed medication is stored safely locked away and medication checks and counts are completed daily. First Aid kits are located within the home and the home's vehicle, a portable first aid kit is available for alternative travel such as on public transport or at times when using staff vehicles if necessary. A designated staff member is responsible for monitoring and restocking first aid kits regularly or following incidents as required.

A healthy, varied, nutritious diet is encouraged by all staff and menus will be planned in conjunction with young people. We will provide meals which are in the main freshly prepared, balanced and most importantly, tasty! All children will be encouraged to enjoy mealtimes together in the dining area with the team including the home's manager at times to promote positive relationships and offer opportunity for all to talk about their day. Staff are trained in food hygiene and safety, and all allergies will be clearly noted and responded to appropriately, as will any culturally appropriate food arrangements. There will also be snacks and treats available to children and young people and staff will encourage young people to access these in a healthy way.

All children and young people will be registered with a local GP, optician, and dentist within 7 days of moving into the home if not already done so. They will be supported to engage in statutory and none-statutory health reviews and assessments as required. Where children and young people struggle to engage with health professionals, we will work with other agencies to support this to happen, for example we may seek support from the Children Looked After Nurse to support children with health anxieties to access support to overcome such barriers or to undergo assessments within the home setting if appropriate.

Juno Wallasey will also offer in-house mental health support which will be provided within the standard placement fees. The main nurturers in Juno homes will be the social care practitioners. They will be directed by the Clinical Psychologist and Registered Manager to use consistent, effective strategies that support children and young people's wellbeing and manage any behavioural challenges that may arise.



Our Clinical Psychologist is Dr Leanne Pasdari who is a Child & Educational Psychologist. Her qualifications are as follows:

Doctorate in Child & Educational Psychology

National Award for Special Educational Needs Coordination

PGCE

BSc Psychology

Dr Pasdari herself receives clinical supervision from a suitably qualified and experienced Clinical Supervisor, Dr. Carol Plumber.

If you have any questions or queries regarding this document, please contact the Home's manager Lisa Collins or responsible Individual Sophie Clarke to discuss further.

#### **Statement of Purpose Document Review**

	Name	Role	Date
Authored by	Sophie Clarke	Responsible Individual	1 <sup>st</sup> November 2023
Reviewed by	Lisa Collins	Presumptive Registered Manager	15 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
Reviewed by	Sarah Dimmelow	Director of Operations	7 <sup>th</sup> July 2024
Reviewed by	Lisa Collins	Registered Manager	24 <sup>th</sup> August 2024
Reviewed by	Lisa Collins	Registered Manager	December 2024