

Witherslack Group's care offer



Safety, security, well-being

- Friendly, accepting home environment
- Age range 8 - 18 years of age
- 'Voice of the Child' embedded into the culture of each children's home
- All children's homes have high staff ratios which allows for the provision of highly personalised programmes for all young people. At night time there is a waking night staff and a member of staff sleeping-in
- In-home therapeutic support including speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, educational psychologists and psychiatrists
- Highest level of safeguarding implemented in every home and supported by Witherslack Group central safeguarding support staff

Education and opportunity

- Highly integrated education and care in partnership with Witherslack Group schools
- All children's homes partnered with Ofsted good or outstanding schools
- Full national curriculum offered with an extensive range of additional academic and vocational qualifications
- Witherslack Group's Internal Team Around the Child (ITAC) approach embedded in every children's home
- An education champion present in each children's home to facilitate strong coordination between school and home

Structure and consistency

- All staff skilled and experienced in working with young people with social, emotional and mental health needs, as well as complex communication and learning difficulties
- Specialist autism training for all staff delivered by the National Autistic Society
- All staff trained in child sexual exploitation (CSE) and radicalisation
- All home staff trained to a minimum of Diploma Level 3. Home Managers, Deputy Managers and Team Leaders all trained to Diploma Level 5
- High retention levels of leaders within children's homes due to strong shared values and 'ethos of care'

Superior facilities

- High quality home environment with every young person having a bedroom with en-suite facilities

Hope

- A track-record of successful outcomes with the most challenging young people, including those with multiple placement breakdowns
- Minimum 18 - 24 months placements to ensure best possible outcomes for each young person and stability for the home
- Each home is supported by Witherslack Group's Clinical Team who provide a combination of direct targeted interventions with young people, staff support and training, and attendance at statutory reviews
- A central database that enables each young person's journey to be clearly evidenced and their ongoing development tracked through a range of different information, with almost every aspect of a young person's journey monitored

Admissions guidance and support

- Comprehensive pre-admission risk assessments to ensure compatibility of young people with existing children's home cohort. This approach enables successful transitions and high levels of placement stability
- Advice and support provided to parents and carers, as appropriate, to facilitate positive transition back to local community
- Website resources, training and support events offered to both parents, carers and professionals

Low risk

- Internal and external quality assurance across all home operations and activity
- Total transparency of placement progress delivered by Witherslack Group's Authority Link database
- Independent Children's Homes Association (ICHA) member

Superior administration

- Dedicated Witherslack Group support function ensuring coordinated communication
- Referral response within 24 hours

Exceptional value

- Lifetime pricing
- Family contact, holidays and a wide range of activities included within overall cost
- All therapeutic provision included in placement cost



Witherslack Group: Our 52 week care offer



Aspirational futures through inspirational education & care

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About Witherslack Group

Witherslack Group provides inspirational education and care to children and young people, resulting in life changing experiences and countless stories of success.

We are the leading provider of specialist education and care for children and young people with social, emotional and mental health needs; complex learning needs and

communication difficulties, including autistic spectrum conditions; Asperger's Syndrome; and speech, language and communication needs.

Our Care

Witherslack Group's overall focus is on the journey of every young person in our care. Before joining us, many of our young people have already experienced multiple placement breakdowns and very poor educational attendance and attainment.

Our children's homes and schools work in partnership with one another ensuring that the best possible outcomes are achieved for every young person. We pride ourselves on our unwavering commitment and we encourage and support each young person to have high aspirations. We are proud of what they achieve and how they grow into young adults with confidence and ambition.

Our aim is to provide young people with the necessary skills, knowledge and resilience to enable them to make a positive contribution to society and assist them in returning to live in a family context, or if appropriate live independently.

Children's Homes

For children who require 52 week care, we are proud to be able to provide them with a home environment that will give them the stability, support and encouragement they need. We offer an integrated package of high quality 52 week residential care and education, in conjunction with our schools, that consistently allows children to realise their potential, both academically and socially.

Each children's home provides a superior group living experience within a welcoming and warm domestic setting. Young people have their own en-suite rooms and all homes are furnished and equipped to the highest of standards.

Our passionate, experienced and skilled staff team support each young person to develop their social and independence skills, which allow them to consistently achieve and develop. Additional support is available, as required, from our comprehensive team of therapeutic professionals.

Young people living in the homes are educated in our sector leading schools or learning centres and all are given opportunities to access a wide range of leisure and social facilities in either a supported, semi-independent or independent manner. The young people are fully involved in deciding which activities take place.

The integrated, tailored approach to meeting therapeutic, education and care needs provides each young person with a clear pathway for success. This holistic plan supports the development of social skills alongside educational attainment, which allows for a phased return to a young person's home environment or the wider community.

Integrated Therapeutic Provision

In addition to children's homes we also offer Integrated Therapeutic Learning Centres which provide an individualised approach to meeting a young person's therapeutic, education and care needs. Young people attending the Integrated Therapeutic Provision live in the children's homes, which are located on-site. There are close links between the home and the on-site learning centre to ensure the best possible outcomes are achieved for each young person.

This fully integrated care, education and therapeutic provision consists of a children's home and separate learning centre all on one site. The learning centres are staffed by a range of qualified Teachers and

Teaching Assistants and offer the full national curriculum with highly personalised and structured educational support.

Our Therapeutic Support

Across all of our children's homes and integrated provisions we have a long standing commitment to providing children with unrivalled levels of integrated therapeutic support, both in terms of the expertise and experience of in-house staff and the range of therapies and support offered by our wider Clinical Team.

Our commitment to delivering outstanding therapeutic support to all young people is based on attachment principles. We believe that unless a young person is able to feel emotionally secure they are less likely to fulfil their personal, social and educational potential.

supported by our own on-site therapists for a minimum of two days a week, with further support, as required, from our Psychiatrists, Psychologists, Mental Health Practitioners, Speech and Language Therapists and Occupational Therapists.

We have an extensive Clinical Team which is able to offer our young people within our schools and children's homes a truly personalised and comprehensive package of therapeutic support. Each of our children's homes is

Our unique approach to supporting young people allows us to achieve uniquely outstanding outcomes, which in turn enable our young people to go on and aspire and succeed in their futures.

What people say about us?

"The children's home and level of care which has been provided has been exceptional. Everyone has accepted the young person for who he is and ensured that his plan has been individualised to meet his needs. All of the staff have taken the time to get to know him and everyone has a sound understanding of his needs. The strategies which have been put in place, including the therapeutic intervention, has made as much positive development possible."

Local Authority

"Everyone I have worked with have been a pleasure and their commitment to improving the lives of young people is clear. It's just a shame you don't have a move on accommodation for young adults!"

Local Authority

"Thank you so much for looking after me and all you have done, you have all done an amazing job. You're all so good at what you do and I will miss all the staff and young people. Thank you."

Young person

"Staff communication with professionals has been of the highest standard including monthly reports, immediate notifications of incidents and up to date placements plans. All meetings have been attended by a range of his care team with reports being provided. I have also been made to feel very welcome when visiting."

Local Authority

"It was such a hard decision for us as a family to make to allow our son to go there, but it was the best decision we have ever made. It truly has been a life changing experience for him. He has come back to us a caring, wonderful young man."

Parent