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| **Identified Risks / Areas of Concern:** | **Information / Actions to reduce risk:** | **Identified Level of risk & how will it be monitored** |
| **Safeguarding:** |  |  |
| **Does the location of the home, influence already vulnerable young people to be a victim of crime such as being targeted for sexual exploitation?**  **The suitability of the local neighbourhood as a location for the children and young people** | Canon’s House is located within a family orientated community, outside of the main town. There is a mix of private and social housing with both houses and flats.  Overall, Devizes as a ‘town’ within the last 12 months between March.24 and Feb.25, crime statistics are as below:   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Crime Type** | **Total** | **Percentage** | | Anti-social behaviour | 443 | 24.2% | | Burglary | 66 | 3.6% | | Criminal damage and arson | 136 | 7.4% | | Drugs | 51 | 2.8% | | Other theft | 80 | 4.4% | | Possession of weapons | 15 | 0.8% | | Public order | 131 | 7.2% | | Shoplifting | 182 | 9.9% | | Vehicle crime | 68 | 3.7% | | Violence and sexual offences | 605 | 33.1% | | Other crime | 26 | 1.4% | | Bicycle theft | 11 | 0.6% | | Robbery | 4 | 0.2% | | Theft from the person | 12 | 0.7% |   As can be seen from the statistics, the three main types of crime that equate to **67.2%** of all crimes are Violence and Sexual Offences, Anti-Social Behaviour and Shoplifting.  Within the context of Canon’s House providing overnight stays and Day Care for children and young people with profound and multiple learning difficulties, complex health and care needs and challenging behaviours, the risk to children or young people being targeted or affected by such crimes, is mitigated due to the security of our house and grounds when in residence and our supervision levels in place when out in the community. No child or Young Person that accesses Canon’s House is permitted to leave the home un-supervised.  Children and young People have access to the internet via our own WIFI network, and this is closely monitored with permission from parents and carers granted prior. | **Low**  The Local Community Police and other Emergency Services are familiar with Canon’s House and the needs and vulnerabilities of the children and young people who access our provision.  The Registered Manager receives regular updates from Wiltshire Police with regards to crime statistics for the local area and any highlighted risks to the home or its residents and staff.  Canon’s House is a member of the local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and actively participates in local community groups, discussions and consultations.  All Staff undertake annual safeguarding training. |
| **Environment:** |  |  |
| **Are there any environmental**  **factors that would represent a hazard to children, such as locations near level crossings or busy roads?** | Canon’s House is located centrally in the small market town of Devizes. We are located just off the Bath Road which is a main route into Devizes town centre.  Being situated within close proximity of a busy main road and the canal, does pose a significant risk to children and young people.  Children and Young People however, are always supervised when out in the community and this is always on a 1:1 basis.  Canon’s House is secure at all times, with a pin-code door entry system. Doors to gain entry or exit from Canon’s House require a four-digit pin code that only staff know. The codes are changed regularly to ensure the highest level of safety.  In response to an incident that occurred in 2015 where a child was able to exit the building and enter into the local community, safety measures were reviewed and alterations made to windows to ensure they could not be opened wide enough to exit the home.  In February 2024 during the early hours, an unknown person was seen on-site. Night care staff contacted police who attended within 25 minutes. A search of the premises found there to be no persons present, no theft and no attempt of entry was made.  As a response, additional security measure were tasked to Wiltshire Council Facilities Management including, additional gate security, additional sensory lighting and additional door security measures. | **Low.** Despite the highlighted significant risks, the actual level of risk to children and young people is low. This is due to the supervision in place at all times and the security of the home.  Dynamic Risk Assessments are an integral part of our planning and management of outdoor activities, and as such – should a risk be highlighted that cannot be immediately and safely mitigated, an alternative activity / location will be sought. |
| **Accessibility of Local Services** |  |  |
| **Identified Local Services and distance and accessibility i.e. Health, Therapeutic, support services** | Canon’s House accesses a wide range of local services, as well as wider available service in the neighbouring towns of Chippenham, Trowbridge, Salisbury, Swindon and Melksham.  Services situated in the immediate vicinity of Devizes include health services & Pharmacies which are in walking distance of the home, some of these services such as Devizes Treatment centre are within easy distance by transport.   * **GPs**, The Lansdowne surgery is situated just behind Canon’s (a few minutes’ walk). The GPs are well aware of the service we offer and will generally offer to do house calls thus eliminating the need for unnecessary ER visits * **Dentist and Opticians**: these are within a 10-minute walk from Canon’s House if we need them but parents/carers are responsible for supporting their children to attend appointments * **CAMHS (Melksham)**: Is within a 15-20-minute car journey from the home; but any young person who accesses this service can be visited at Canon’s House * **Chippenham & Trowbridge Minor Injury Unit**: These are both within a 25-minute travel time from the home. * **Bath / Swindon Accident and Emergency Hospital:** Around a 30-minute drive by car, via main roads. * **Sports**: We work very closely with local Leisure and Sports Centres to ensure our children and Young People have access to a wide range of sporting activities, leisure facilities, clubs and groups. * **Cinemas:** There is a local cinema located in Devizes town centre which is within easy walking distance of Canon’s House. However, disabled access is restricted and as such, staff tend to use the ODEON in Trowbridge which has full disabled access and good disabled parking facilities. It is within a 25-minute car journey from the home. * **Hop, skip & Jump**; A centre for children and young adults with disabilities and SEN. Centres are equipped with sensory rooms, soft play facilities and art rooms in order to provide a safe and secure space that enriches the lives of disabled children. Within a 50 minute journey by car. * **Southwick Country Park:** The park caters for children with complex and severe physical and learning disabilities, sensory impairments. Each child is treated as an individual with their own strengths, likes and dislikes, disability is never seen as a barrier to participation. 30-minute journey by car * **Silverwood Hydrotherapy Pool, Chippenham and Rowde**. Canon’s House access these small, heated pools regularly for swimming and play sessions. The pool and changing facilities are fully accessible. * Local community activities, events and locations. There are numerous activities that young people can access e.g. carnivals, fun fair, Christmas activities, music and outdoor activities at Hillworth Park. Local football and other sports matches. Devizes also has a Museum with regular activity sessions and focus exhibitions. | **Low.** All children and young people are supported and supervised to access / attend any service / activity and, therefore, staff can monitor accessibility and appropriateness of activities through dynamic risk assessment to assess anything that may put the child or young people at risk of harm or injury.  should a risk be highlighted that cannot be immediately and safely mitigated, an alternative activity / location will be sought.  Risk assessments are in place for all children and young people with specific support identified if required, when out in the community, or accessing particular activities or experiences, such as swimming. Staff pre plan trips and entre Risk Assessments on to the system called Evolve. These are then signed off by the Manager and also have oversight from the LA for trips that pose more of a significant risk for example, swimming, theme parks ect. |
| **Views of current young people regarding whether they feel safe** | Canon’s House ensures there is a thoughtful, detailed and carefully managed transition into residential stays at Canon’s House for children, young people and their families.  All children and young people have a designated social worker, a Canon’s House key worker various Health and Care professionals that support them.  Parents, carers children and young people are encouraged and supported to raise any concerns they have with regards to the location, or any element of any of the risk assessments that Canon’s House operates under.  We work closely with the Conference and Reviewing Team at Wiltshire Council and are visited by Regulation 44 independent visitors and Councillors each month.  Children and Young People access and engage in regular children’s meetings and Parents and Carers are provided regular opportunities to express opinions, thoughts, feelings and concerns through questionnaires and open forums. | **Low.** There are multiple and varied opportunities for children, young people, parents, carers, staff and professionals to raise any type of concern. |

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| **Actions to outline Measures taken to Manage risks.** | **Home response of actions to reduce risks.** |
| **Providing young people with access to relevant support services** | Children and Young People have access to, but are not limited to the following services:   * CAHMS – Through referral by social worker * ADVOCACY – Through announced and un-announced monthly independent visits and through Wiltshire council’s advocacy referral process. * SPORTS CLUBS/FACILITIES – upon request and planned * MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS – as and when the need arises |
| **Ensuring that young people have access to sources of confidential advice and advocacy so that they feel safe to disclose any risks they face;** | The Children and Young people have access and are supported to use such support services as Childline, NSPCC, Barnardo’s, Ofsted, CAHMS, a GP or similar.  Children are also supported to access their social worker and in-house Key Worker. |
| **Improving security for the home so that individuals or vehicles approaching the home can be recorded** | At Canon’s House, we have a security locking system operated by keypad on all external doors which prevents children exiting the building without staff support, this is with the exception of their accessing the rear garden which is fully accessible and secure.  There is also a security locking system operated by keypad on the rear garden gate which again prevents a child from exiting without staff support and stops visitors accessing the garden without permission.  Risk Assessments are completed for individual young people who may be at risk of running away and missing person criteria is on the young persons missing persons form which can be handed to Police.  Any unexpected or unknown persons entering the grounds will be challenged by staff members, only if safe to do so and only during daytime hours. Should any unknown person be on site during nighttime hours then the police should be called immediately and attendance requested as priority.  We have a signing in facility within the home, therefore any, and all, visitors to the home must sign in and out in the visitor’s book as well as having their identification checked upon entering.  Unless specifically planned (such as therapy / advocacy for example, and a valid DBS certificate is provided, visitors are escorted & supervised at all times with children present. |
| **Access to quality Education** | The children and young people from Canon’s House attend a number of specialist schools within Wiltshire, these facilities specialise in providing individualised education plans specific to each child’s Education, Health and Care Plan EHCP or MyPlan.  Wiltshire Council provides transport for the children and young people to access these schools on a daily basis.  Canon’s House works collaboratively with school’s and college’s to monitor progress and assist in developing their education in a consistent way and attend school reviews. |

Assessed by: Charlotte Morgan

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AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Date: April 2025