



Prospectus

Forge
Care 
Homes for Children



Forge Care's flagship new service, The Forge, is a brand-new, purpose designed Therapeutic Community for children who have experienced early disruption to their development.

At the Forge children and care givers are provided with a sustainable, positive environmental influence, which is at the heart of all our decisions.

Our environment has been shaped with the complex needs of trauma recovery at the centre.

Our Therapeutic Community is the healing environment, this has a powerful impact on the day to day lives and experiences of all members.

The Therapeutic Community also benefits from Creative-Expressive Therapies and Life Story that promote trauma healing experiences, to living within artfully designed homes, surrounded by gardens and spaces to enjoy sports, leisure, and the opportunity to prepare for greater interdependence in the future.

Our Therapeutic Community is dedicated to assisting healing from early, traumatic life experiences, disrupted attachment, and to reducing the impact of adversity, so that children can make sense of their pasts.

We steward children's development of trust in themselves and in others, as well as belief in and skills for their future. Our Model of Care is based on neuro developmental, trauma-resolution principles and positive attachment practices and is framed by the Sanctuary Model®.

The children we care for have experienced disrupted development within their early lived experience. They have had to survive inadequate and harmful environments and/or unsupported neurodiversity (ASD, ADD, ADHD, ODD, PDA), through various unconscious strategies, including dissociating and disconnecting from themselves and others, distrusting others and rejecting their own and others' vulnerability.

To work with any of these patterns of survival, the child needs to feel safe, so that their out-of-date, automatic survival patterns can become a more conscious choice or become redundant.

Our Care Team will be supported to be emotionally intelligent, regulated, and available for the children. Providing them with a safe, secure and empowering environment.

The routines and rhythms of daily life, embed messages of belonging and safety, to enable engagement with recovery processes. We focus our aspirations on growing as individuals and as a group, through opportunities to develop greater self-awareness, social responsibility and leadership.

Conflict resolution and other processes that enable us to articulate our differences, preferences and needs, are practiced daily, to enable greater confidence in repairing relationships and social learning.





Community Healing

Within community living we practice boundaries not barriers. Everybody within the community has a role supporting children and stewarding towards holistic wellbeing of all its members.

Around each child there are adults who think and hold different parts of the child but who also work collectively as a community.

Our therapeutic parents hold the child's history and good enough safe parenting through role modelling, attentiveness and attunement to the child's needs. They very much deal with the here and now.

Individual one to one Therapy support is offered on a weekly basis, where the children are offered opportunities to express and process their trauma, using emotional-distancing techniques – such as metaphor, embodiment, role, story and improvised play. This enables 'stress / trauma memories' to be disconnected from the stress response – therefore reducing Complex-PTSD, dissociation and dangerous forms of self-soothing and acting out their distress.

Therapeutic Life Story Work is offered on a bi-weekly basis, with the child and their Key Carer. This space provides support to the child's development of a positive identity and making sense of their past.

The care team are trained to facilitate emotional co-regulation and engagement in trauma resolution. They provide the children with verbal and non-verbal cues of safety, opportunities for social contribution and responsibility.

The therapeutic parents are available at times when children most need it. This may be during the times that children experience their loss, fear and despair most intensely, such as bedtimes; or at times of playful, social and physical activity – in order to support opportunities for developing confidence and competence beyond their 'comfort zone'.

Opportunities to Contribute

Children's choice and voice have often been reduced through their exclusion from important decisions in their lives – such as being removed from their family home or when a foster family placement breaks down – sometimes without any preparation, due to a range of complex circumstances.

We believe that every member of the community has the right to a voice and are offered opportunities to express themselves and be heard.

Daily Group Meetings offer active engagement and inclusion in decision making and wider community matters. Children can also contribute with the community through taking part in the environment through gardening, animal care, play, social enterprise opportunities and development of skills for the future.

Ongoing development

We have a commitment to growth and change to affect and evolve practise. The Sanctuary Model provides a strong foundation of compassionate understanding as well as skills to help manage the complexities of community living and post-traumatic growth.

Responsibilities and expectations increase as community members grow and progress. This creates, for all community members, an important sense of belonging to a whole that is greater than the sum of its parts.

In our therapeutic community the life of groups and groupings is important. A group reflects, amplifies and changes the emotional life of the people in it so a group is a good place to process life experiences, communicate unmet needs and take in therapeutic experiences. Groups offer all members, chances to communicate, a culture to invest in and make their own.

Opportunities for personal and professional development, Clinical Reflections, Experiential Training and Therapeutic Insight Groups are weekly practices. We also engage the expertise of external partners such as practice and organisational consultants who help us to continually evolve.



The team



Gavin Miller
Director Founder

“The Forge; our flagship service aims to become a market leading provider known for the highest quality care for young children.”

15 years' experience as a business leader, much of my career has been spent in Health & Social Care, having previously founded and operated several care services and facilities across a spectrum of sectors and client groups.



Jean Miller
Director Founder

“We are excited to be launching Forge Care, our new service will truly help children recovering from trauma “

Former CEO of Springfield Mind. Worked and studied in the Health and Social Care Sector for over 25 years, my career both operationally and strategically has been spent in a variety of Social Care settings.



Dave Hughes
Director Co-Founder

“Forge care is based upon good people loving enough to be there for children”

17 years' experience of working with children, families, and wider groups of corporate parents in public, private and third sector settings. Promoting authentic, empathic leadership and inclusive management of teams. More recently founding a national consultancy, training and mentoring



Brigid Wells
Director of Therapy and
Community Development

“Forge Care creates the space for each member of its community to shine and lead.”

With 20 years’ experience of working with children and the families and teams around them. Promoting connection, trust and accountability, I have seen each person within a system develop and bring more of themselves to contribute towards a community’s greater health, welfare and wellbeing.



Kim O’Neil
Deputy Operations and
Registered Manager

“I have a strong focus on advocating for each child’s voice to be heard and their choices a key element in decision making.”

With 25 years’ experience working within the Health and Social Care Sector, my passion for safeguarding children, led me to residential care; working initially as a practitioner, and then as a Registered Manager, delivering trauma informed practice within a therapeutic setting.



Victoria Turner
Deputy Operations and
Registered Manager

“The Forge provides children with a caring, supportive community where they feel fulfilled and safe”.

9 years’ experience working with children and young people with a range of complex needs due to a history of abuse and trauma. Previously working in therapeutic settings and in the last 3 years as a registered manager. I am passionate about ensuring all children feel safe, valued, and cared for.



The Sanctuary Model

The Sanctuary® Model at its core, promotes safety and recovery from adversity through the active creation of a trauma-informed community. A recognition that trauma is pervasive in the experience of human beings forms the basis for the Sanctuary Model's focus not only on the people who seek treatment, but equally on the people and systems who provide that treatment.

<https://www.thesanctuaryinstitute.org/>

The Sanctuary Commitments

Non-violence	Emotional Intelligence	Social Learning	Open Communication	Social Responsibility	Democracy	Growth & Change
Safety = Physical Psychological Social Moral	Human behaviour makes sense	Mistakes happen and we must learn from them	Information is the flow of life	There is power in groups and safety in numbers	Complex problems require complex responses	All changes means loss. Human intention can change the future

Environment & Design

At Forge care we believe that active healing can only be truly experienced when children feel loved, safe and secure.

Forge Care will provide care and support for up to 24 Children across 4 six-bedroom homes within our community. One of our six bedrooms in each home is a self-contained interdependent apartment, where children will be supported through a life course program to develop the experiences and confidence to be prepared for their next steps as young adults.

The Forge is located within the North Warwickshire area and is close to local communities, education settings, employment opportunities, leisure activities and a variety of interests and hobby pastimes for children. The Forge location also benefits from established transport links and accessible amenities.

Our homes are nestled in a semi-rural location, within our 3-acre greenfield site, with planted gardens, ponds, art spaces, outdoor sports pitches, exercise and play zones that really encourages the support and growth of the whole individual, including mind and body through exercise, play, therapy, creativity, yoga and meditation.

We encourage green policies and environmental best practises across our communities. Our care homes come with bike racks and communal bikes for commuting, exercise, and play. We pre-sort and recycle all waste from our homes and office spaces. Power, Water & Gas are ethically sourced from 100% renewable sources.





Interior Precedents





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