

Walker Lodge, Norris Green, Liverpool

Focus of Facility

- To support individuals to maintain and/or regain independent living skills following injury. In addition to supporting individuals to take part in activities to enhance quality of life, rebuild confidence and encourage social interaction.

Ethos

- The service aims to provide a person centred and holistic approach to rehabilitation
- Individuals are encouraged to be involved in all aspects of their care and the setting of rehabilitation goals.
- Individuals are encouraged to participate in daily living tasks and a variety of activities giving them the opportunity to apply functional meaning to therapeutic exercises and tasks.

Clientele

- Individuals who have an acquired brain injury and would benefit from increasing their independence or those wishing to maintain a level of independence who require on-going therapeutic intervention.

Location

- The service is located in Norris Green, Liverpool, close to a small shopping parade and with excellent transport links to Liverpool City Centre and further afield.

Family Accommodation

- Arrangements can be made for partners to stay overnight
- Where there is a need for other family members to be close by staff can direct them to a number of reasonably priced hotels

Family Dining Facilities

- There is a separate training kitchen with dining table which can be made available for families to prepare and eat meals together
- Alternatively families can at times be accommodated in the main dining area

Range of Therapies and Care Provided

- The service has access to a number of therapeutic disciplines including occupational therapy to speech and language, drama therapy and physiotherapy.
- At the point of assessment recommendations are made as to an appropriate programme for an individual and this is reviewed regularly at agreed intervals

Service User Involvement

- Each individual is supported to participate in the designing of their rehabilitation and support package to the extent of their ability.

Rehabilitation Schedules, Social Activities and Activities of Daily Living

- All schedules are planned to include therapy programmes integrated into daily living tasks
- Structured routines, orientation sessions and errorless learning programs as required
- There are opportunities to include activities to enhance life for example trips to the theatre, shopping, holidays, meeting family and friends for coffee, hobbies and/or educational courses/vocational placements.

Clothing and Laundry

- There are laundry facilities within the service including drying equipment
- Individuals are encouraged to participate in laundering their own clothes, bedding and towels with support from staff.

Mealtimes

- Core mealtimes in place to assist those individuals who require more structure to their day. However individuals who do not require this level of structure are encouraged to plan their own times and flexibility exists to accommodate planned activities
- Facilities enable all service users to eat together or separately as preferred. Family members are able to attend for special occasions like birthdays / a Christmas meal.

Diet and Choice

- All individuals are actively encouraged to put forward ideas for the weekly menu
- Where special dietary requirements exist menus can be developed to meet the needs of an individual
- As individuals increase in their independence they are encouraged to become more involved in planning personal menus, stock rotation and shopping with a budget

Bedrooms

- All bedrooms have en-suite shower facilities and can be decorated to meet an individual's preference
- Where a clinical recommendation is made e.g. for a specialist piece of equipment such as a profiling bed, this must then take precedence over personal choice e.g. if there is a safety issue.

Access

- The service is purpose built and the house and garden are wheelchair accessible.
- Portable hoists are available and the second floor is accessible via a lift
- All bedrooms are level access and corridors/doors wide enough to accommodate wheelchairs, mobility aids

G.P/Medical Cover

- There are a number of GP surgeries within walking distance of the service giving a choice to individuals
- The unit works closely with GPs to support their understanding of how individuals have been affected by their injury
- In addition the unit also works closely with other health professionals to ensure a consistent, holistic approach

Staff Training

- All staff receive a bespoke induction to Walker Lodge
- Induction training is supported with an additional training plan that includes both core and specialist training, some examples include introduction to brain injury, safeguarding, person centred approaches

- Following basic training and a probationary period staff are supported to go on to acquire a diploma in Health and Social Care at the appropriate level
- Staff are also encouraged to attend conferences, workshops and road shows to support their knowledge development

Fire Safety and Evacuation Planning

- Every individual has a personal evacuation plan designed to meet their specific needs
- Specialist equipment such as evacuation mats are available where required
- The service has taken part in a complete assessment of needs with Merseyside Fire service to ensure any fire crews attending in an emergency are fully briefed on the layout of the building and additional needs of individuals in residence
- The service is equipped with smoke detectors, automatic fire doors and a sprinkler system
- An emergency grab bag is situated in the front lobby containing details of the evacuations plans, contingency plan following evacuation and contact details for all relevant family members and staff
- Details of the evacuation plan are made available to all visitors and all staff are trained to be able to conduct an evacuation

Management Team

- The management team is made up of a service manager, deputy and two senior staff
- All members of the management team have completed diplomas in Health and Social care at the appropriate level
- The service manager has 16 years' experience in the management of residential services, and over 10 years working in acquired brain injury services. In addition she holds a degree in Psychology and qualifications in Management, Management of residential services, assessment, quality assurance and delivering training.

Transport

- The service has a vehicle with seven seat capacity
- Local transport links include frequent bus services into the city centre and adjoining boroughs, local and national rail services and access to both Liverpool and Manchester airports