Learning disability support services

Delivering positive outcomes for people with learning difficulties
Our services at a glance

• Specialist residential care, respite and day opportunities
• Innovative support programmes in a safe and caring environment
• Independent living in safe accommodation
• Supported living and community outreach transition services
• Support in accessing education and paid employment prospects
• Progression through a care pathway that fulfils each individual’s maximum potential
• Choices for the people we support that encompass each individual’s needs to achieve positive outcomes and make a transition to more independent living
We provide people that have a learning disability with support to access a range of specialist residential and housing options based on their choices and what best suits their needs, including living in their own homes. Our focus is on innovative, needs-led services, driving for greater independence.

Our services include:

- **Residential services**
  Tailored, personalised support for people with learning disabilities, mostly in small, homely environments that allow our trained, friendly and dedicated staff to focus on providing the right amount of support in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

- **Respite and day services**
  Specialist services which offer bespoke support and enablement for up to six individuals who, in addition to their learning disability, have additional support needs associated with autism, challenging behaviour, complex health needs or additional disabilities.

- **Supported living**
  Innovative support, highly focused on supporting people to be as independent as possible within their own homes and in the local community. We support and encourage individuals with household tasks, going shopping and managing money, as well as accessing local facilities like leisure centres and libraries, and to fulfil their education or employment wishes.

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**Flexible packages give individual choice**

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**Delivering positive outcomes for people with learning difficulties**

At Priory Adult Care, we understand that people with learning disabilities can face challenges in understanding new or complex information, learning new skills or coping with everyday life. In its mildest form a person may live completely independently but find learning new skills more of a challenge than others. Those with more severe, profound or additional disabilities often require more specialist support on a longer term basis.

As a condition, learning disability affects the brain's ability to receive and process information which can make it problematic for a person to learn as quickly or in the same way as someone who is not affected by a learning disability. People with a learning disability may have trouble performing specific types of skills or completing tasks if left to figure things out by themselves or if taught in conventional ways.

We support and empower individuals with a wide range of learning disabilities who may also have other complex needs associated with challenging behaviour, complex physical disability, sensory or healthcare needs often requiring adapted environments or support arrangements to provide stability and limit damaging rejections, unplanned upheavals and placement breakdown. The more stable each individual’s placement is, the better outcomes are likely to be.

**Care pathways**

By encouraging people to take control and have belief in their potential, we can make positive outcomes a reality for everyone, regardless of age or presumed ability, by creating pathways that support individuals through residential to community living, delivering measurable results for both local authorities and the people who use our services.

At the heart of our care pathways we provide person-centred and innovative choices that encompass each individual's needs to achieve positive outcomes and make a transition to more independent living, providing just enough support whilst caring for each person with dignity and respect.

Above all, enabling people to lead fulfilled, independent lives is what we are all about, and by working together, we can make a real and lasting difference.
Delivering a personalised approach

At Priory Adult Care, we believe it is important to develop and sustain a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of learning disabilities. To ensure this is available to staff teams across the country we have established a specialist Learning Disability Team headed by a Quality Assurance lead, providing a dedicated focus on the overarching strategy for good learning disability practice established right across the Priory Group of Companies.

We aim to support everyone to fulfil their goals and ambitions. We understand that working can be a great way of improving people’s self esteem, increasing confidence and improving social skills, which is why we always aim to support individuals to find either paid or voluntary work. Nationally, approximately 65% of people with a learning disability want a job, but only 7% have one. Voluntary work can be rewarding in its own right and dependent upon the individual, can also be a great pathway to paid employment.

With this in mind, we support individuals to access education and to find employment. A large number of our service users with a learning disability are in paid employment, or have accessed voluntary work/education.

“Priory Adult Care’s learning disability service provides specialist residential and support services to meet the specific needs of people with learning difficulties and associated needs, in a safe, stimulating and structured environment. We enable each individual to reach their full potential.”

Robert’s story

Robert*, 45, owns his own house, is in paid employment, manages his personal budget and leads a full and active social life. After many years living in services this is a life-changing scenario for Robert and one he is embracing fully and confidently. Robert moved into Priory Adult Care’s, Glebe House in Market Rasen around six years ago.

He has a diagnosed mental health condition and was living with a friend who sadly was admitted to hospital under section. It was two years before Robert became fully engaged in the programme at Glebe House. He involved himself in courses to teach life skills and undertook an NVQ in woodwork. The confidence this gave Robert led him to consider buying his own home, using money he had inherited.

Robert was determined to find the right property, somewhere he felt comfortable and was close to Glebe House, his support network and friends. He is well-known and liked in the local area and wanted to remain a part of the community which had contributed so much to his pathway to independent living. Supported by his carers at Glebe House, Robert embarked on his own ‘Location, Location, Location’ property hunt. After around 30 viewings eventually the perfect house was found and despite a few difficulties an offer was made, accepted and Robert moved in.

Achieving positive outcomes

With support from Priory Adult Care’s, ‘Supporting You in Lincolnshire’, Robert began the next stage of his life. His support worker is a former deputy manager at Glebe House and her relationship with, and knowledge of Robert and his triggers, went a long way towards breaking down the barriers towards independent living.

He has taken ownership of his personal budget, been discharged from his social worker and been taken off the Care Programme Approach. Robert is still a frequent visitor at Glebe House. Through the Pelican Trust, Robert is putting his woodworking skills to good use earning money making a variety of products including test tube holders, wooden plaque stands and bird tables. In his own words Robert says, “I have been in services for years but now I have got myself a house. It was a lovely thing to feel like I am on my way outside of the care home. I now feel like I am starting afresh with a new life.”

“I feel like all my stresses have gone.”

Robert, supported by Priory Adult Care’s
Glebe House

*Names have been changed to maintain confidentiality.
Fulfilled lives

At Priory Adult Care, we place strong emphasis on listening to and supporting each service user in achieving their goals, realising their dreams, aspirations and planning a more individualised and fulfilled lifestyle.

Our approach to this includes longer term planning and sets out achievable goals which individuals can work towards over a period of time – ranging from making a cup of tea, owning and caring for their own pet, employment, learning to ride a bike, through to having their own tenancy agreement and a home in the community.

Our programmes of activities could include:

- Hobbies, interests or sports activities
- Work placements, voluntary or paid
- Helping keep the home neat and tidy
- Aspects of personal care and hygiene
- Working towards their goals, aspirations and greater independence

Everyone is individual, everyone has a voice

‘Your Voice’ is an impressive and enthusiastic self-advocacy group made up of service users who are supported by Priory Adult Care. They have become an important part of the company’s decision making process and are responsible for a busy programme of events ensuring that everyone’s views, thoughts and ideas are heard. It is also a process of empowerment, enabling those with the least voice to have their say by:

- Meeting regularly to discuss aspects of the services they receive and to explore new opportunities
- Planning Priory Adult Care service led social events including birthdays, community open days, summer BBQs and topical events
- Carrying out surveys and participating in presentations at management meetings
- Involvement in partnership board local action groups, so that every person we support has choice and control over their lives
- Increasing awareness amongst the people we support about the opportunities and benefits of training and paid employment

“ I think the staff are great and they really have helped me to live the life I want to.”

Person supported by Priory Adult Care

“I like it here, I can watch and play football.”

Person supported by Priory Adult Care
Philosophy of care

Priory Adult Care combines individualised care pathways for each service user with its philosophy of care, whilst the overarching learning disabilities strategy encompasses innovative key areas and links directly to the Government Strategy for adults with learning disabilities – Fulfilling and rewarding lives:

- Specific assessment and understanding of the individual nature of the learning disability for each service user via our own learning disabilities profiling system. These profiles are then used and worked with to ensure the difficulties and challenges are lessened and the skills and gifts are maximised
- Three tiers of staff training in learning disabilities, ranging from a Foundations for Growth Induction Module, through the Learning Disabilities Module as part of the Health and Social Care Diploma, to a University Level Qualification delivered internally and awarded by our partner University – The University of Brighton
- Community presence: Priory Adult Care will increase the presence of individuals in local community life as citizens
- Community participation and relationships: Priory Adult Care strive to expand and develop individual’s friendships, and relationships within the community
- Respect and having a valued role: Priory Adult Care will enhance the reputation that individuals have and increase the ways that individuals can contribute
- Promoting choice: Priory Adult Care will support individuals to have more control and choice and be self determining in relation to their life and lifestyle
- Supporting contribution: Priory Adult Care will support individuals to develop their skills, abilities and confidence to become more independent
With the help and support of Priory Adult Care, Suzanne* is more like her old self now like she used to be years ago, a lot more positive and happy, her level of challenging behaviour has drastically reduced.

A local authority social worker

Safeguarding

Priory Adult Care is committed to protecting all our service users and ensuring safeguarding best practice is followed at all times. We strive to maintain a transparent and open culture where everyone feels safe and able to share any issues.

Concerns relating to safeguarding are always listened to and taken seriously, and we work in partnership with the relevant agencies across our full range of services.

The group has robust national and local structures in place to manage safeguarding, and our clear policies and procedures are supported by the delivery of high quality safeguarding training for all staff.
Working in partnership to deliver value added services

Our packages of support and enablement are flexible and tailored to individual and local authority requirements with transparent price bandings reflecting the needs of each service user. We are focused on the Personalisation Agenda with a service offer centred around the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE).

At Priory Adult Care, we work in partnership with local authorities, commissioners, social care and healthcare case teams and associated professionals across England, Scotland and Wales. We utilise our experience and expertise to develop long lasting relationships, building trust and affordable solutions, whilst offering a transparent service of integration and clinical effectiveness, to ensure that we become the provider of choice, delivering just enough support that reflects the aspirations of each and every individual.

For us, working in partnership with our purchasers is a constantly managed process, which means that we value the relationship we build, so we can demonstrate to our service users that we share responsibility for them. Also showing that we can work together in their interest to provide the best possible opportunities, ensuring that the services commissioned are delivered in the most personalised, practical and effective way possible, and that are comparable to Cost Funding Calculators.

“Priory Adult Care offer value for money support packages that focus on enabling everyone the opportunity to progress into independent living at a pace that suits them, ensuring individual recovery care pathways are developed and fully supported throughout the process.”
We provide a range of bespoke residential and community based care services including step-down facilities, supported living and residential care for adults with learning disabilities. The focus of our learning disability care services is on rehabilitation and empowerment meaning that when a service user is placed in one of our services, we work with them to develop the skills and confidence needed to return to independent living as quickly as possible.

As we are uniquely placed to benefit from the breadth and depth of the Priory Group’s reputable services, we can provide seamless links to our psychiatric hospitals and secure units. This ensures accessible therapeutic and psychological expertise, continuity in care, progression towards a pathway of independence and the delivery of positive and measurable outcomes, encouraging innovation and improvement in service design.

Links with and accessibility to step-up and step-down services include adolescent acute mental health treatment, addictions, eating disorders, child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS), high dependency units, paediatric intensive care units (PICUs) and low and medium secure services.

Whether in a residential home environment or out in the community, our core belief is that dedicated and individualised person-centred support allows each individual to develop at their own pace and make their own choices that fulfil personal dreams and aspirations.
A range of flexible non-residential ‘Supporting You’ services for people, including those with Individual Budgets or Direct Payments, are available providing support and enablement focused on service users that are supported in the community, in their own homes or at any Priory Adult Care service. A strong focus on Quality Assurance ensures that each and every service is delivered in the best interests of the individuals it supports. Priory Adult Care continually strives to innovate and grow efficiency to give positive quality outcomes for each service user.
Finding the most appropriate care and support can seem complicated. At Priory Adult Care, we can offer advice about accessing benefits and funding and working out budgets. For anyone with an Individual Budget or Direct Payment in place, we can offer support to decide how to spend your budget to make sure you can live the life you want.

Referrals may be made through:

- The individual’s Social Services Department management team or, if relevant, their local Health Authority
- By the individual (or an appropriate adult acting on their behalf) who wishes to use Direct Payment or Individual Budget, or who is self-financing
About our Group

Priory Adult Care is part of the Priory Group of Companies, the leading independent provider of behavioural care in the UK. We have established an unrivalled reputation for providing individual care, innovative services and positive outcomes for our patients, residents and service users.

From education to hospitals, care homes and secure facilities, the Priory Group of Companies offers individually tailored, multidisciplinary treatment programmes for those with complex educational needs or requiring acute, long-term and respite mental healthcare.

The integrated strength of each service provides a seamless transition for the individual as they progress between higher and lower dependency care and across services. This unique approach ensures that every individual has the opportunity to achieve the best possible outcomes and quality of life.

At the Priory Group 85% of our services are funded by the NHS and other public bodies, our clinical teams work closely with commissioners across the country to provide transparent pricing models and evidence-based care packages along every stage of the service user’s journey with us.

Contact us

To make a referral or for enquiries and further information, call us on 0808 231 9425, send an email to adultcare@priorygroup.com or visit our website at www.prioryadultcare.co.uk