

Quality Assurance of Alternative Provision

Organisation: The Enterprise Centre
Commissioned for (Lots): Lot 6
Contact: Alison Hornsby
Undertaken by: Nick Bell
Position: AP and SEND Sufficiency Lead
Date: 2nd April 2026

Context:

Registration Status	unregistered
No of pupils currently accessing	9 students plus 12 Connexions NEET programme
No of places available	
No of FT pupils attending (+ 17 hrs)	0
No of FT EHC pupils attending (+17hrs)	0
No of FT LAC pupils attending (+ 17hrs)	0

Context

The centre is a small specialist alternative provision which provides a range of courses specialising in equine assisted learning. The centre currently provides equine courses, alternative provision, HAF programmes and a programme for NEET learners. The centre also provides a range of adult courses, but these are always at a separate time to courses for school age children.

The centre provides a calm, nurturing base and young people are well supported through equine therapy and the programmes and qualifications that are on offer. All AP courses are bespoke to the young person's needs and adapted to support their transition to the next stage.

Safeguarding

- a) All staff and proprietors have appropriate recruitment checks including an enhanced Disclosure Barring Service check, which are recorded on a single central register, and persons failing to meet those checks are not employed.
- b) Appropriate policies and procedures to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children attending the provision.
- c) Robust procedures are in place outlining how to respond when a safeguarding or welfare concern arises.
- d) All staff are familiar with the provider's arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
- e) Access to the site is restricted to registered learners, the organisation's own staff, and supervised visitors.
- f) There is a named child safeguarding lead at the setting who has received appropriate, documented training.

KCSIE – does the provider subcontract any of the provision to another provider and if so are appropriate checks in place

Evidence

At the time of the visit a safeguarding policy was in place but the date on the policy indicated the last update as being in May 25. The policy requires updating to ensure it is in line with KCSIE 25.

There are currently 4 staff and one associate employed by the provider. An SCR is in place, and appropriate checks have been undertaken including enhanced DBS. All staff are registered on the auto renewal service. Two members of staff are safer recruitment trained. There are some volunteers associated with the centre, and these will be added to the SCR although they are not working directly with children.

Staff complete safeguarding training on High-Speed training including KCSIE 25, Safeguarding Level 1, Prevent and CSE.

One member of staff is DSL trained and second is undertaking training to be the DDSL for the centre. A reporting template is in place for staff to record concerns with a record of the actions taken.

There is limited use of ICT on site and all computers have filtering in place. Young people who use the computers (for example for the completion of online courses) are always supervised.

The site is restricted. The provider does not offer a post 16 NEET programme. In order to ensure there is no overlap with other young people, the post 16 learners are met at the gate and the work takes place at a separate building which has its own facilities. There are two staff with 6 learners who are with them all of the time. There is a high staff to student ratio for the younger learners, often 1:1, and they are supervised at all times.

Areas for Development	Update	Date
Ensure safeguarding policy is updated in line with KCSIE 25 Add volunteers to the SCR.	Updated policy provided	7 th April
	SCR provided with volunteers added Further update provided	7 th April 7 th May
Completion of DSL training for DDSL	DDSL training complete	28 th May

2. Health and Safety

- a) A health and safety policy is in place that is understood and implemented by all staff.
- b) First Aid equipment and/or facilities are readily available and there are arrangements for access to a qualified first aider.
- c) A system is in place and in use for recording health and safety and first aid incidents.
- d) All specialist equipment used by children, staff or volunteers at the setting has undergone individual risk assessment and additional health and safety checks consistent with industry standards.
- e) Staff hold appropriate qualifications or have received appropriate training in the use of specialised equipment including, where appropriate, supervising or training others in its use.
- f) An appropriate fire safety policy is in place.

Evidence

A Health and Safety policy has been provided and is understood by all staff.

All staff have First Aid at work training, and a First Aid refresher is booked to take place imminently. This is delivered by a trainer in person. A First Aid kit is kept within the classroom areas and a Accident and Health and Safety reporting book is in place. There have been no reportable incidents.

There is no powered specialist equipment in use. PPE is provided for cleaning duties for activities with animals which includes boots, wellingtons and socks. The young people participate in animal care but not riding. Young people are always supervised when on site.

Risk assessments are in place for work with animals and for the site. As part of the risk assessment young people are required to sign up to a zero-tolerance policy which requires young people to remain calm around the animals. There have not been any situations, to date, where a young person has had to be removed.

24 hours CCTV is in place across all areas of the site, excluding bathrooms, and includes sound recording. There is a lone working policy in place but there is no individual work with children and there is always more than one member of staff around.

Staff are appropriately qualified for the activities undertake and have a significant amount of experience related to equine care etc. Staff are qualified through BHS and equine Psychology.

A fire safety policy and risk assessments are in place. Fire extinguishers are evident around the property and have been serviced recently. PAT testing has also been completed recently.

Areas for Development	Update	Date
Fresher First Aid training to be completed imminently	Confirmed training has taken place for all staff	28.05

3. Admissions, guidance and support

- a) Admission and referral processes are clearly documented and well supported
- b) The setting maintains records, including information provided by commissioners, for all children placed in the setting

- c) The provider has an induction process to help children to understand the intended outcomes of the placements and their settings health and safety policies.
- d) The setting records pupil attendance for each session and share information promptly with commissioners. Processes are in place for checking on the health and welfare of absent children, and to agree strategies to improve attendance.
- f) The provider has a strategy to support good behaviour for learning, to record children’s behaviour and progress, and to share information about behaviour routinely with commissioners and parents.

Evidence

Following an enquiry with regard to placement visit is arranged to the setting for the young person and parent in order to establish whether needs can be met. Once the place is confirmed an induction is undertaken where consent forms, including for medical needs, are completed. A managing medications policy has been provided. Any medication that is required is kept in a locked cabinet, but wherever possible parents are asked to ensure that medication has been taken at home.

An individual learning plan is completed following induction to details the young persons targets and the provision that will be in place to achieve these.

An attendance register is completed for each session and is share weekly with schools. In most cases parents bring the young person to the session. Where a young person does not attend contact is made with parents to establish the reason for absence. In most cases schools contact daily to check on attendance.

Progress reports are completed on a daily basis, and a full report is sent to the school/commissioner on a termly/half-termly basis.

Young people and parent/carer sign up to the behaviour policy at the start of a placement and plans are in place to ensure that preventative strategies are in place to manage behaviour. Young people are very positive about the environment and as a consequence, very few behavioural incidents are observed.

Areas for Development	Update	Date

4.The quality of education

- a) Teaching staff and instructors have the appropriate skills, knowledge and qualifications to deliver programmes.
- b) Planning for learning shows lesson/session plans identify the knowledge, skills and understanding that different groups of learners will achieve.
- c) There is a clear process for setting targets and monitoring learning progress, supporting re-integration and transition where appropriate, and for taking actions of progress is not on track.
- d) The providers has processes in place to self-evaluate whether they are effective in delivering the commissioned service

Evidence

There are currently four members of staff working at the centre, two of whom are qualified teachers and two who are teaching assistants. One member of staff is BHS qualified.

Animal/Equine Courses are accredited by UK rural skills with some courses written by the centre accredited through the awarding body such as project planning. The centre has a qualified internal verifier and the examining body carry out external verification with sampling of work provided by the centre.

The centre also supports young people to complete online courses through Centre of Excellence such as preparing to be a teaching assistant, introduction to veterinary nursing, equine massage. The centre is currently looking at options to enable young people to access functional skills qualifications through the centre.

Examples of young people's work was seen during the visit. This included folders of work which contained evidence produced by young people to support rural skills qualifications as well as literacy and numeracy work.

The centre has charitable status and there is a board of trustees in place to oversee the centre's work and trustees have a range of experience including in higher education. Internal meetings take place with trustees to monitor progress and ensure accountability. The board meets routinely to receive financial reports.

Areas for Development	Update	Date
Implement a self-evaluation framework in line with national standards.		

Documents provided for visit:

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy	yes
Staff Code of Conduct	yes
Student Code of Conduct	yes
Behaviour Policy	yes
Anti-Bullying Policy	yes
Attendance Policy	yes
SCR	yes
Risk Assessments	yes
Health and Safety Policy	yes

Follow up Visit required: Yes / **No** By when: