



## Admissions Policy

### 1. Introduction:

1.1 Afon Goch Children’s Home Ltd (AGCH), is the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) registered provider of therapeutic children’s homes at Afon Goch and Caban Aur. AGCH is registered to provide placements for up to five residents aged 11-18 years.

1.2 Ysgol Caban Aur (YCA) is the in-house school for AGCH and only admits children placed with AGCH and is registered with the Welsh Government, for up to 4 learners, aged 11-16 years.

1.3 AGCH specialise in working with children/young people with moderate to severe attachment disorders. The children may have presented with behaviours that resulted in exclusion from mainstream settings. Children may be placed with AGCH for other reasons.

### 2. Pre-placement considerations:

2.1 Any referral information regarding educational background, and the ‘Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) – England, or the ‘Individual Development Plan (IDP) – Wales will be carefully considered. The accompanying documentation will be reviewed to gain a preliminary awareness of the prospective learner’s ability, attendance, placements, attainments, subject coverage, Special educational Needs (SEN)/Additional Learning Needs (ALN).

2.2 If the placement with AGCH is an emergency, then educational records and information will be obtained as soon as practicable after admission.

2.3 YCA is not ‘approved’ by the Welsh Government to admit children with a statement of special educational needs.

2.4 All children placed with AGCH are assessed pre-placement to ensure that their needs can be met by the placement. Additionally, there is a ‘Compatibility Risk Assessment’ for the prospective new admission and the other residents currently in place with AGCH.

2.5 Liaison will be established with the mainstream school, through social services, that the prospective learner had been/is attending, if practicable. This is to help the process of transition.

2.6 AGCH and YCA will provide for an induction and support for children on admission to the school, to ensure that they are familiar with staff, other children, the schools expectations and daily routine.

### **3. Educational provision whilst at AGCH:**

3.1 AGCH will support the educational provision for the individual learner. This education provision may be provided by:

- A local mainstream school. This will be the local authority school that the child was attending before being placed at AGCH and the placement plan is to continue with this educational provision. A young person may then be supported by AGCH whilst attending college education, from 16 – 18 years of age.
- Is enrolled with Ysgol Caban Aur and follows an initial reduced timetable, to allow settling in to AGCH. This is then enhanced to a full-time educational programme.
- A 'blended' arrangement, whereby the learner remains enrolled with the local authority school for some lessons and with YCA for the remainder.

3.2. YCA will use relevant referral information from previous educational placements to start the new learner on the most suitable curriculum structure and level of work. This may be amended depending on further awareness of the learner's knowledge and understanding through 'formative' and 'summative assessments (formative assessments are classroom observations made by the teacher, summative assessments are more formal testing).

3.3 If appropriate, external subject examinations and syllabi will be implemented to maintain continuity from any previous work prior to placement.

3.4 A review of how the child has settled following admission to the school would consider whether the provision is meeting their needs, as set out in the EHCP/IDP, or otherwise.

3.5 In the case of an emergency admission, a review meeting will be initiated as soon as possible (and not longer than 4 weeks after admission) to consider if the child should remain at the school?

3.6 Review meetings will be with those having significant involvement with the child; social services, placing authority, carers, health services, education staff, AGCH management.

### **References:**

The Children's Homes (Wales) regulations 2002

Independent schools registration and operations guidance; information document no: 165/2014

The Additional Learning Needs Code for Wales 2021

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