

Lumen Home's Referral Guidance

To ensure that children placed in our home are suitable for the environment and do not cause excessive noise or disruption to other residents or neighbours, a structured and thorough selection process will be followed. The process will consider the child's needs, behaviours, and potential impact on the home and surrounding community.

1. Initial Referral & Application

- Referrals may come from social services, local authorities, or other care professionals.
- A preliminary review of the child's background, behaviours, and support needs is conducted.
- Assessment of whether the home's environment can appropriately support the child without compromising the well-being of existing residents.

2. Comprehensive Assessment Process

A multidisciplinary team (social workers, psychologists, care staff) will assess the child based on:

A. Background and Behavioural Assessment

- Review of previous placements and reasons for any breakdowns.
- Assessment of behavioural patterns, including any history of noise-related disturbances, aggression, or disruptive tendencies.
- Evaluation of triggers and coping mechanisms for emotional regulation.

B. Compatibility Assessment

- Matching the child's temperament and needs with the existing group of residents.
- Evaluating how the child interacts with peers in structured and unstructured settings.
- Identifying potential risks or conflicts and strategies to mitigate them.

C. Risk and Noise Impact Assessment

- Determining the likelihood of excessive noise or behavioural disturbances.
- Reviewing past incidents of excessive noise, outbursts, or social conflicts.
- Consulting with behavioural specialists to develop strategies for noise management if required.

3. Trial Visits and Observations

- The child may participate in a short visit or day placement to observe interactions and behaviour.
- Staff monitor and document responses to structure, routine, and peer dynamics.
- If necessary, additional therapeutic interventions or behavioural strategies may be considered before full placement.

4. Decision-Making Panel

- A formal meeting with social workers, support workers, therapists, and placement officers to discuss findings.
- Consideration of whether the child's needs can be met without negatively impacting the home's environment.
- If concerns about noise or disruptive behaviour arise, a tailored support plan is developed.

5. Placement Agreement & Behaviour Management Plan

- If the child is approved for placement, an Individual Support Plan (ISP) is created, outlining:
- Noise management strategies (e.g., quiet hours, de-escalation techniques).
- Behavioural expectations and reinforcement plans.
- Support for emotional regulation (e.g., therapy, staff interventions).

The child, support workers, and relevant professionals sign an agreement outlining expectations and consequences for disruptive behaviour.

6. Ongoing Monitoring and Review

- Regular behavioural reviews (weekly/monthly) to assess integration and noise levels.
- Adjustments to support strategies as needed.
- If excessive noise or disruption becomes an issue, a reassessment of placement suitability may be conducted.

This selection process ensures that children are placed in a supportive and manageable environment, minimising disruptions to other residents and neighbours while prioritising each child's needs.