



ELEV8 CARE LTD

Residential Children's Care Specialists

ANCHOR HOUSE

Children's Home Statement

A safe, nurturing and therapeutic home for children and young people

172 Arbour Lane, Kirkby, Knowsley, L33 7XB

Prepared by

Eleva8 Care Ltd

July 2026

"Creating stability, building resilience and enabling brighter futures."

Document Control

This document forms part of the planning submission for the proposed change of use of Anchor House to a small residential children's home. It has been prepared by Eleva8 Care Ltd to accompany the application for planning permission for Use Class C2 at the above address.

Field	Detail
Document Title	Anchor House — Children's Home Statement
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Property	Anchor House, 172 Arbour Lane, Kirkby, Knowsley, L33 7XB
Planning Application Ref	26/00353/FUL
Proposed Use Class	C2 — Residential Institution
Capacity	Up to two (2) children / young people
Distribution	Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council — Planning Department

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1 · Welcome to Anchor House

At Eleva8 Care, we believe every child deserves more than simply a place to live — they deserve a place where they feel safe, valued and supported to reach their full potential.

Anchor House has been developed to provide a warm, family-style home for up to two children and young people who require high-quality residential care. The home has been carefully designed to provide a calm, therapeutic environment where young people can recover from trauma, develop resilience and build the confidence needed to move towards independent adulthood.

Unlike institutional settings, Anchor House has been intentionally designed to remain indistinguishable from other family homes within the local community. This approach promotes inclusion, reduces stigma and enables children to enjoy ordinary childhood experiences in a safe and supportive environment.

Every aspect of the service has been developed around one simple principle: every child deserves safety, stability and the opportunity to thrive.

"Every child deserves safety, stability and the opportunity to thrive."

2 · About Eleva8 Care

Who We Are

Eleva8 Care Ltd is an independent provider of specialist residential children's care dedicated to improving outcomes for children and young people with complex emotional, behavioural and social needs.

Our homes are designed to provide safe, nurturing environments where children can develop positive relationships, rebuild confidence and achieve lasting emotional stability.

Our experienced leadership team combines expertise in residential childcare, safeguarding, behaviour support, education and therapeutic practice to ensure that every child receives individualised care tailored to their specific needs.

Rather than simply providing accommodation, Eleva8 creates homes where children can experience routine, belonging and positive relationships that support long-term development.

Our Core Principles

- Child-centred care
- Trauma-informed practice
- Positive relationships
- Safety and safeguarding
- Education and achievement
- Independence preparation
- Community inclusion
- Continuous improvement

3 · Vision, Mission & Values

Our Vision — Building Better Futures

Our vision is to become one of the UK's leading providers of therapeutic residential childcare by creating homes where vulnerable children can flourish in safe, stable and nurturing environments.

We aspire to deliver consistently high-quality care that enables every child to overcome adversity, realise their potential and develop the skills necessary for independent adult life.

Our Mission

To provide exceptional residential care that:

- Promotes safety and wellbeing.
- Builds trusting relationships.
- Encourages education and personal achievement.
- Supports emotional recovery.
- Develops resilience.
- Prepares young people for adulthood.

Our Values

Safety

Creating environments where children feel physically and emotionally secure.

Respect

Treating every child with dignity, compassion and understanding.

Integrity

Working openly, honestly and professionally in everything we do.

Excellence

Continually striving to improve outcomes through high standards of care.

Empowerment

Helping children develop confidence, independence and life skills.

4 · Anchor House at a Glance

The following summary provides an at-a-glance overview of the key features of the proposed home.

Feature	Details
Home Name	Anchor House
Address	172 Arbour Lane, Kirkby, Knowsley, L33 7XB
Registration	Children's Home (subject to Ofsted registration)
Planning Use	Proposed C2 — Residential Institution
Capacity	Two young people
Staffing	Up to 4:1 support where required
Care Model	Therapeutic, trauma-informed residential care
Age Range	8–16 years (subject to placement matching)
Education	Individual education plans with local schools or alternative provision
Healthcare	Registered GP, CAMHS and specialist services as required
Outdoor Space	Private rear garden
Parking	Off-road parking for staff and visitors

5 · Why Anchor House?

Anchor House has been carefully selected and adapted to provide a high-quality residential environment that supports positive outcomes for children while remaining fully integrated within the surrounding residential community.

The property benefits from spacious communal living areas, comfortable bedrooms, dedicated staff facilities and secure outdoor space. Its location provides excellent access to schools, healthcare, leisure facilities and public transport, enabling children to participate fully in community life.

The small-scale nature of the home allows staff to provide highly individualised care, ensuring each child receives the attention, consistency and support they need to thrive.

A small, family-style home — not an institution.

6 · Statement of Purpose (Planning Context)

The proposed change of use seeks to establish a small residential children's home accommodating a maximum of two children.

The proposal will provide an essential community service responding to the growing need for high-quality residential childcare within the region. The home will operate as a typical family household, generating activity levels comparable with other residential properties and maintaining the residential character of the surrounding area.

The development will not result in significant changes to the external appearance of the property or adversely affect neighbouring residential amenity.

Use Class and Capacity

Planning permission is being sought for Use Class C2 (Residential Institutions). The home will accommodate a maximum of two children. It is a small, family-style home, not an institution.

Ofsted Registration Sequencing

Ofsted registration (SC1 — Provider Registration, and SC2 — Manager Registration) will be submitted once the required planning consent has been granted, reflecting the sequencing required by the registration process. Ofsted requires that the proposed premises have the appropriate planning consent (Use Class C2) before the SC1 and SC2 applications can be formally submitted and progressed. As a result, Ofsted documentation is not yet available at the time of this submission.

Ofsted registration will be progressed immediately upon the granting of planning permission.

7 · Property Overview

Anchor House is a substantial two-storey detached dwelling situated within a generous curtilage on Arbour Lane, Kirkby. The property retains the appearance and layout of a traditional family dwelling, with no external alterations proposed as part of the change of use.

Internally, the accommodation has been reconfigured to support the operation of a small children's home, providing communal living areas, a single young person's bedroom, dedicated staff sleeping rooms and staff office accommodation. The layout has been designed to balance the operational requirements of a registered children's home with the domestic character of the property.

Internal Accommodation

Ground Floor

- Living Room
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Hall
- Bathroom
- Staff Office

First Floor

- Child's Bedroom 01
- Child's Bedroom 02
- Staff Bedroom 01
- Staff Bedroom 02
- Bathroom

The proposed layout provides one child's bedroom and two staff bedrooms, supporting overnight staffing while retaining a domestic layout. The inclusion of dedicated office accommodation on both floors supports effective record-keeping, supervision and case management without compromising the homely environment.

External Environment

The site plan shows a generous curtilage around the property, which supports parking, outdoor space and clear separation from neighbouring properties. A private rear garden provides safe, secure outdoor space for children to enjoy. Off-road parking is provided for staff and visitors, minimising on-street parking and any associated impact on the highway.

8 · Therapeutic Environment

Trauma-Informed Care

Anchor House operates within a trauma-informed framework, recognising that many of the children we support will have experienced significant adversity, loss or trauma in their lives. Our approach prioritises safety, trust, choice, collaboration and empowerment at every stage of the child's placement.

Staff are trained to understand the impact of trauma on behaviour, development and emotional regulation, and to respond with consistency, empathy and clear boundaries. Behaviour is understood as communication, and our responses are designed to support children to feel safe, regulated and understood.

Relationship-Based Practice

At the heart of our model is a commitment to relationship-based practice. We recognise that recovery from trauma is achieved through consistent, trustworthy and attuned relationships with adults. Each child is supported by a small, stable staff team who build genuine, lasting relationships over time.

Therapeutic Daily Life

Therapeutic practice is embedded within the rhythms of daily life at Anchor House — shared meals, routines, activities, boundaries and conversations. The home is designed to feel calm, predictable and homely, supporting children to develop a sense of safety and belonging.

Recovery from trauma is achieved through consistent, trustworthy and attuned relationships with adults.

9 • Safeguarding

Safeguarding is central to everything we do at Anchor House. The home operates within a robust safeguarding framework that meets the requirements of Working Together to Safeguard Children, the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015, and the Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations including the Quality Standards.

Safeguarding Arrangements

- A designated safeguarding lead and deputy within the home.
- Up-to-date safeguarding policies and procedures reviewed at least annually.
- Safer recruitment practices, including enhanced DBS checks for all staff and regular visitors.
- Regular safeguarding training for all staff, refreshed in line with national guidance.
- Clear reporting procedures for concerns, including escalation to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) where appropriate.
- Strong information-sharing protocols with local safeguarding partners.

Risk Assessment

Every child placed at Anchor House is subject to a comprehensive placement plan and risk assessment, reviewed regularly. Environmental risk assessments cover the home, garden, vehicles and community activities. Behaviour support plans are individualised and reviewed as needs change.

10 • Staffing Model

Anchor House is staffed by a small, experienced and stable team of residential support workers, supported by a Registered Manager and a senior leadership team within Eleva8 Care.

Staffing Ratios

The home operates with a generous staffing ratio of up to 4:1 (staff to child) where required by individual placement plans, ensuring that each child receives the level of support they need. Waking night staffing and on-call management support are provided to ensure safety and continuity at all times.

Staff Qualifications

- Registered Manager holds, or is working towards, the Level 5 Diploma in Leadership and Management for Residential Childcare.
- Support staff hold, or are working towards, the Level 3 Diploma in Residential Childcare.
- All staff complete the Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) induction standards.
- Mandatory training includes safeguarding, first aid, behaviour support, de-escalation, food hygiene, fire safety and medication administration.

Shift Patterns

The home operates a rolling rota including early, late and waking night shifts, ensuring continuous staffing. Sleep-in cover is provided in line with regulatory requirements and individual risk assessments.

On-Call and Management Support

An out-of-hours on-call service provides access to senior management support 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The Responsible Individual (RI) maintains regular oversight of the home, visiting in line with regulatory requirements and producing monthly reports on the quality of care.

11 • Admissions & Matching

Admissions to Anchor House are managed through a careful matching process to ensure that the home is the right environment for each individual child and that the needs of any existing resident are not compromised.

Admissions Criteria

- Children and young people aged 8–17 years.
- Those who would benefit from a small, therapeutic, family-style residential setting.
- Children whose needs can be safely met within a home accommodating up to two young people.
- Placements subject to robust assessment, risk assessment and matching.

Matching Process

Each referral is considered against the needs of any child already resident. The matching process includes review of referral information, risk assessment, consultation with the placing authority and the child where appropriate, and a planned admission process to support a settled transition.

Exclusions

Anchor House is not suitable for young people whose primary presenting needs require a secure environment, or whose behaviour would present an unmanageable risk to other residents, staff or the local community. Each referral is assessed on its individual merits.

12 • Daily Life

Daily life at Anchor House is structured around the rhythms of a typical family household. Mealtimes are shared, routines are consistent, and children are supported to participate in household activities, education, hobbies and community life.

Routine and Structure

A predictable daily routine supports children to feel safe and to develop healthy patterns of sleep, eating, education and activity. Routines are individualised and reviewed regularly to reflect each child's needs and stage of development.

Family-Style Living

Meals are prepared and shared together. Children are encouraged to participate in age-appropriate household tasks, contributing to a sense of belonging and developing independent living skills.

Activities and Hobbies

Children are supported to access a wide range of activities and hobbies in line with their interests, including local clubs, sports, arts and outdoor pursuits. Activities are recorded and reviewed as part of each child's placement plan.

13 • Education

Education is a priority at Anchor House. Every child is supported to access appropriate education, whether in a mainstream school, specialist provision, or alternative education, in line with their Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) where applicable.

Individual Education Plans

Each child has an individual education plan that sets out their educational needs, aspirations and the support required to achieve them. Staff work closely with schools, the local authority virtual school and education professionals to support attendance, engagement and achievement.

Promoting Achievement

Children are encouraged and supported to achieve their full educational potential. Homework is supported, achievements are celebrated, and progression to further education, training or employment is actively encouraged.

14 · Health & Wellbeing

The physical and emotional health and wellbeing of each child is a central priority at Anchor House.

Healthcare

- Each child is registered with a local GP, dentist and optician.
- CAMHS and other specialist health services are accessed as required.
- Individual health plans are developed and reviewed as part of the placement plan.
- Medication is stored, administered and recorded in line with regulatory requirements.

Emotional Wellbeing

Emotional wellbeing is supported through the therapeutic approach described above, alongside access to specialist therapeutic input where appropriate. Staff are trained to recognise and respond to signs of emotional distress, and to support children to develop healthy coping strategies.

15 • Community Integration

Anchor House is intended to operate as a typical family household, fully integrated within the surrounding residential community. Children are supported to access local schools, leisure facilities, clubs and services, and to develop positive relationships within their community.

Local Links

The home's location provides excellent access to local amenities, public transport and community facilities. Children are encouraged and supported to participate in community activities in line with their interests and stage of development.

Neighbour Relations

Eleva8 Care is committed to being a considerate neighbour. The home will operate considerate hours, manage arrivals and departures sensitively, and maintain open communication with neighbours. Any concerns raised by neighbours will be addressed promptly and professionally.

Benefits to the Local Area

- Providing an essential community service for some of the most vulnerable children in the region.
- Bringing a formerly underused property back into productive use.
- Generating levels of activity comparable to a typical family home.
- Supporting local employment and the local supply chain.

16 • Environmental Impact

The proposed change of use will not result in any material increase in traffic or activity compared to the existing residential use of the property. The home will accommodate a maximum of two children and a small, stable staff team, generating movements comparable to a typical family household.

Vehicle Movements

Staff shift changes generate a small number of vehicle movements at predictable times of day. Off-road parking is provided for staff and visitors, removing the need for on-street parking. Deliveries and refuse collection follow normal residential patterns.

Residential Character

The property retains the appearance and layout of a traditional family dwelling. No external alterations are proposed. The home will operate on a domestic scale, maintaining the residential character of the surrounding area.

Amenity

The proposal will not result in noise, disturbance or activity that would adversely affect neighbouring residential amenity. The home operates within ordinary daytime and evening hours, with sleeping accommodation overnight consistent with residential use.

17 • Planning Considerations

The proposal has been prepared with careful regard to the relevant planning policy framework, including the National Planning Policy Framework, local plan policies, and the specific considerations that apply to small residential children's homes.

Principle of Development

Small residential children's homes are an established and necessary form of residential institution. National guidance recognises the importance of providing accommodation for children in need within local communities, and the value of keeping children close to their home area.

Use Class C2

The proposed use falls within Use Class C2 (Residential Institutions). The home will accommodate up to two children, supported by a small staff team, and will operate as a single household in character and scale.

Material Considerations

- No material increase in traffic or vehicle movements.
- Residential appearance retained; no external alterations proposed.
- Domestic scale and character maintained.
- Minimal impact on neighbouring residential amenity.
- Positive social value through the provision of an essential community service.

Sequential Approach to Ofsted Registration

Ofsted registration is sequenced to follow the granting of planning permission, in line with Ofsted's requirements. This sequencing reflects Ofsted's requirement that the proposed premises have the appropriate planning consent before the SC1 and SC2 applications can be formally submitted and progressed.

18 • Governance

Eleva8 Care Ltd operates a clear governance structure to ensure that every home delivers high-quality, safe and effective care.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Director — overall accountability for the company and its services.
- Responsible Individual (RI) — regulatory oversight of each home, monthly reporting on quality of care.
- Registered Manager — day-to-day leadership of the home and the care team.
- Deputy Manager — supports the Registered Manager and deputises as required.
- Residential Support Workers — direct care and support to children.

Quality Assurance

The home is subject to a continuous quality assurance cycle including monthly RI visits, regulation 44 visits, staff supervision, team meetings, incident review, and feedback from children, placing authorities and partners. Findings inform an ongoing action plan and continuous improvement.

Complaints and Compliments

A clear and accessible complaints procedure is in place, with multiple routes for children, families and placing authorities to raise concerns. All complaints are acknowledged, investigated and responded to within defined timescales. Compliments and feedback are also recorded and shared with the team.

19 • Appendices

Appendix A — Floor Plans

The proposed floor plans for Anchor House are submitted as a separate drawing and form part of the planning application. They show the layout of the ground floor and first floor, including communal living areas, the young person's bedroom, staff sleeping rooms and office accommodation.

Appendix B — Site Plan

The site plan shows the property boundaries, parking arrangements, relationship to neighbouring properties, access into the site and garden space.

Appendix C — Organisation Chart

An organisational chart showing the governance and management structure of Eleva8 Care Ltd and the reporting lines for Anchor House is available on request.

Appendix D — Glossary

- C2 — Use Class for Residential Institutions under the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order.
- SC1 — Ofsted Provider Registration application.
- SC2 — Ofsted Manager Registration application.
- CAMHS — Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.
- EHCP — Education, Health and Care Plan.
- LADO — Local Authority Designated Officer.
- RI — Responsible Individual.
- DBS — Disclosure and Barring Service.

Appendix E — References

- Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015.
- Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations including the Quality Standards.
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (current edition).
- National Planning Policy Framework (current edition).
- Ofsted social care registration guidance.

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