

House of St Martin

The House of St Martin provides a home that is secure, caring and stimulating where men and women can develop a crime-free lifestyle. The project offers training leading to recognised qualifications, work experience, interpersonal relationships and interaction. A professional and dedicated staff team provide key working and integrated care plans.

The House of St Martin Provides

The House of St Martin provides accommodation, training and further education for men and women who have been before the court, who are on bail, are being released from prison, or who are at risk of offending. The home is set in six acres of land, and is overlooked by the Quantock hills, being close to the village of Norton Fitzwarren, near Taunton in rural Somerset. The village is ten minutes walk by public footpath having small village amenities, a shop and newsagent, Public house and Anglican Church. Taunton, a bustling market town, supports a cinema, swimming pool, leisure centre, library and further education facilities.

Staff place particular emphasis on the privacy, dignity, choice, rights, independence and fulfilment of each man or woman.

Accommodation

Bedrooms, either single or doubles, are tastefully decorated, and a key is provided for each resident. A Laundry Room for residents contains a washing machine and tumble dryer (a small charge is made for the use of the tumble dryer). There are ample bathing and shower facilities, The home has a large communal dining room, 2 television lounges, one with a pool table. Residents are encouraged to participate in kitchen work and cooking as part of their life skills training. Every attempt is made to provide special dietary meals as requested by the home's doctor, or to respect cultural and religious requirements.

Assessment Periods

All prospective residents are accepted initially for a minimum four week assessment period before permanent residency if confirmed. This allows residents to endorse their decision to wish to live at The House of St Martin.

Conditions of Residency

Before we can assess an application, prospective residents are asked to sign a Data Processing Consent form. To allow for the project to run satisfactorily, new residents are required to sign up to the house rules which also includes a section on responsibilities. All residents will need to sign a Resident's Licence Agreement. Residents will be given a handbook which includes important information about living at a Langley House Trust project.

Equal Opportunities and Confidentiality

We are also committed to achieving equal opportunity for all. No applicant or resident will be treated less favourably than another person because of their race, colour, ethnic or national origin, or because of their religion, gender, sexuality, disability, age, appearance marital status or any other improper ground.

The staff provide each resident with a confidentiality policy through which they seek to safe guard and keep secure all confidential information received regarding an individual.

External Resources

The staff work in close co-operation with other agencies – The Probation Service, The Prison Service, Social Services Departments and local medical services to name a few. The home co-operates closely with the Somerset Probation Service who provide the home with a Liaison Probation Officer.

Medical Provision and Health Issues

All new residents are asked to register with the home doctor and are encouraged to attend surgery for a medical health check up as soon after arrival as is possible. All prescribed medication is supervised by staff using a Monitored Dose System.

Key Worker and Support Plans

Each resident is allocated a named Key Worker who is responsible for weekly one-to-one structured support for a minimum of one hour each week which takes place in a confidential environment in a room free from interruption. Each session is recorded and residents

are encouraged to input into the record and have access to it. The Key Worker is responsible for all aspects of Support Plans and staff will assist with move-on as and where appropriate.

The Support Plan identifies needs as defined by the resident under the headings: Ways of Addressing Offending Behaviour, Social Supports, Daily Living Skills, Financial/Legal, Health/Medical, Leisure, Cultural, Religious, Training, Employment, and Housing.

Education, Training, and Employment

The home is a training centre and offers a range of training in horticulture, IT, building and core skills including literacy. Training often leads to a recognised qualification and increases potential for employment. House staff and local college tutors can provide practical and theoretical training on-site and off-site.

The six-acre home site includes a modernised greenhouse, polytunnels and a large orchard, and supports production of a range of vegetables, fruit, bedding plants and flowers.

There is a dedicated IT training room which is fully equipped with multiple workstations to provide tuition from starter level with advanced tuition available at the local college.

A range of grounds and building project and maintenance work provides opportunity for construction experience.

The House also provides help with core skills for independent living, such as literacy, cooking and budgeting.

There is a weekday work programme that residents become involved in which provides the practical experience that residents can use as part of their training programme. Residents are encouraged to seek relevant qualifications which, with the work experience, help lead to employment.

Referrals

Referrals in the first instance should be made to The House of St. Martin.

For Further Information

Staff at House of St Martin welcome informal enquiries from those considering making a referral. Prospective residents are encouraged to visit the home by prior appointment, as are Probation Officers, Social Workers, Sentencers and others professionals.

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