



Daniel's story

Shaftesbury Mews case study



How we supported Daniel

Daniel* is an autistic man who also has a learning disability, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and epilepsy. He is very mobile and requires high levels of support with personal care, whilst also presenting with pica, self-injurious and other behaviours which may challenge.

Before arriving at one of the bungalows at Shaftesbury Mews, Daniel was previously admitted into the local hospital, due to his needs becoming increasingly challenging in his family home environment. Due to a significant deterioration in his presentation which placed him and others under significant risk of harm, Daniel was detained under The Mental Health Order.

How has Shaftesbury Mews helped Daniel?

Due to his needs, Daniel requires 2:1 support across the day, with staff rotation on a 2-hourly basis from across the staff team at the Shaftesbury Mews bungalows.

Daniel is reliant on non-verbal communication to express his needs and wants. Following in-house training at Shaftesbury Mews, careful planning and significant staff persistence over a number of months, Daniel now responds to visual True Object Based Icons (TOBIs) and two options on a choice board.

A portable TOBIs bag is also carried by staff at all times to facilitate Daniel's choices across the daily routine that he has now developed. For example, Daniel prefers a bath and may have several throughout the day, as he enjoys this as a sensory activity, alongside going for regular drives with staff. This can be also used as a pro-active strategy in preventing agitation.

A positive behaviour support (PBS) plan was developed to promote less variable sleeping patterns at more appropriate times. Daniel's use of toys is managed carefully to avoid fixation or over-stimulation, and encourages the use of other environments. Sensory items and activities have been purchased or created, including a trampoline, swing, garden toys, soft play items, an astroturf seat, projector and sensory boards.

Ongoing discussion groups at Shaftesbury Mews have enabled the sharing of effective strategies and the development of consistent best practice between staff when supporting Daniel. Additional PROACT-SCIPr-UK® non-restrictive interventions have also been introduced to reduce the incidence of physical aggression towards staff, which has reduced considerably since Daniel's admission to Shaftesbury Mews.

All of the support workers have also completed competency assessments to enable them to assist in a specific care plan to safely and effectively administer Daniel's medication, whilst speech and language therapy assessments, training and guidelines have been developed to make his meal times safer. Ongoing work continues to help Daniel to maintain a healthy weight and adequate nutrition, including encouragement to eat more than one meal each day and become less reliant upon snacking.

We are delighted with the progress Daniel has made since arriving at Shaftesbury Mews, and the significant reduction in his behaviours that may challenge since being admitted. Daniel's family have also expressed their delight in the placement and the support Daniel receives, having previously expressed their concerns about the suitability of a shared, community placement due to his challenging needs.



Contact us today

Located in County Antrim, Shaftesbury Mews provides residential settings for adults with a range of needs. These include people who are autistic, have a learning disability and behaviours that may challenge.

If you would like to make a referral, call us on **0808 208 2147**.

If you have a specific enquiry for the site, call the local number on **02890 852866**.

Alternatively, send an email to **adultcare@priorygroup.com**

or visit our website at **www.priorygroup.com**

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