

Benneton Care Homes

Blue Bells House

Noise Control Plan Policy

Policy Title:	Noise Control Plan
Version Number:	01
Applies to:	All Colleagues
Date of Issue:	23/04/2024
Date of Review:	23/04/2025
Policy Owner:	Jason Bennett
Ratified by:	Kendal Bennett
Responsible signatory:	Kendal Bennett
Outcome:	This policy aims to: • Reduce noise pollution: Limiting noise levels from various sources (such as traffic, entertainment, screaming and shouting) • Protecting Public Health: Minimising health risks associated with excessive noise exposure. • Ensuring Compliance: Establishing clear guidelines, regulations and enforcement measures for noise levels ensuring we comply with local noise ordinances and legislation. • Promoting a balanced Environment: Supporting a harmonious environment where we coexist without excessive noise disruption.

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1 Noise Control Plan

Blue Bell House, Clare's Green Road, Spencer's Wood, Wokingham

1.1 Purpose

This noise Control Plan outlines the responsibilities and practices of Blue Bell House staff and residents to minimise noise disturbances in our community. It is intended to foster respectful coexistence with our neighbours, ensure that Blue Bell House operates in harmony with the local environment, and maintain a positive reputation within Spencer's Wood.

This plan should be read in conjunction with our Good Neighbour Policy, Management statement for the control of noise, and our Complaints, Concerns and Compliments Policy.

1.2 Risks

The following are potential sources of noise in and around Blue Bell House:

- Outdoor activities in the garden area.
- Events and gatherings, such as celebrations or social gatherings.
- Noise associated with vehicle movements near the premises.
- General noise from daily operations and recreational activities.

1.3 Control Measures

To manage and mitigate noise, Blue Bell House will implement the following strategies:

1.3.1 Community Awareness and Engagement

- Staff and residents will receive training on the importance of noise control as part of their induction.
- Information about our Noise Control Plan will be made available to neighbours and the local community to ensure transparency.
- Regular communication with neighbours to address any concerns and to maintain good relationships.

1.3.2 Operational Guidelines

1.3.2.1 Day-to-Day Activities

- Strict guidelines will be set for outdoor activities, particularly regarding timing and noise level. Outdoor activities will be scheduled to avoid early morning or late evening hours.
- Events will be planned considering noise impact, and where possible, significant events will be held off-site or in well-insulated areas of the home.
- Vehicle movement will be minimised during early and late hours, and drivers will be instructed to maintain low noise levels when arriving or departing.

1.3.2.2 Child Placement and Behaviours

- We carefully consider children's known behaviours before offering them a home with us. (Our matching criteria set this out).
- Information about the child is collected and discussions take place with children's social workers and where possible, their family and school before a child moves in. We, in discussion with the registered manager make the final decision about if a child comes to live with us.
- Ensure that before considering a placement, requests will be made for any existing Local Authority Care Plans, Education and Health Care Plans, psychological assessments, risk assessments and Behaviour Management Plans that the child has.

1.3.2.3 Staff Responsibilities

- Staff will make sure they run Blue Bell House like 'any normal family home', and staff will act like 'corporate parents' and will encourage the children to act as 'responsible citizens'. This will include helping children to be considerate of our neighbours just as they would in any family home.
- All children living within Blue Bell House will have individual Risk Management plans which staff will assess and action any potential risks that may be present, therefore they minimise instances where potential noise may impact upon other children, staff and neighbouring properties.

1.4 Building and Environment Management

- Blue Bell House will ensure that buildings are well insulated to contain noise.
- Regular maintenance and checks will be conducted to ensure that doors and windows effectively minimise noise escape.
- Consideration will be given to the landscaping and outdoor areas to act as natural sound barriers.

1.4.1 Behavioural Expectations

- Staff will model and enforce appropriate noise levels by demonstrating considerate behaviour.
- Residents will be educated on the impact of noise and encouraged to be mindful of their activities and their effect on the local community.
- Noise control will be incorporated into the home's code of conduct, and staff will monitor and manage adherence.

1.4.2 Monitoring and Response

- Blue Bell House will implement a system for monitoring noise levels and addressing any issues promptly.
- A dedicated contact at Blue Bell House will be available for neighbours to express concerns regarding noise. This contact information will be widely disseminated in the community.
- In the event of a noise complaint, the home's management will take immediate steps to address the issue and prevent recurrence.

1.5 Complaint Handling

Complaints regarding noise will be taken seriously and handled promptly according to our formal Complaints Policy. This will ensure quick resolution and ongoing communication with the complainant to maintain trust and good relations.

1.6 Plan Review and Adjustment

This Noise Control Plan will be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness and make necessary adjustments based on feedback from the community and changes in the operational environment of Blue Bell House.

1.7 Conclusion

By implementing this Noise Control Plan, Blue Bell House aims to be a considerate and responsible member of the Spencer's Wood community, ensuring we create a balanced, healthy and sustainable environment that reduces the harmful impacts of noise on people and communities. Our commitment to maintaining low noise levels is part of our broader effort to provide our residents with a safe, supportive, and respectful home while fostering positive relationships with our neighbours in line with our Good Neighbour policy.