



Ealing House

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POLICY ON SOCIAL CONTACT

Policy Statement

Ealing House believes that its service users should expect their quality of life to be enhanced by their admission to the home and by the provision of a safe, manageable and comfortable environment which provides the stimulation and encouragement to pursue their lives to the maximum chosen physical, intellectual, emotional and social capacity.

Ealing House adheres fully to *Standards 12, 13 and 15 of the National Minimum Standards for Care Homes for Older People.*

Aim of the Policy

This policy is intended to set out the values, principles and policies underpinning this home's approach to the social life of its service users.

Policy on Social Contacts

1. The home believes that having social contacts is a crucial part of living a fulfilled and healthy life.
2. The home will do its best to provide ample opportunities for its service users to mix and seek friendship and pleasure in each other's company and in the company of their friends and relatives.
3. The home also believes that privacy and choice are absolute rights of every service user and with this in mind all service users of this home should:
 - have access to a wide range of social activities should they wish to access them
 - be supported by the home and by staff if they wish to develop an interest or an activity that is not currently supported by the home
 - be able to remain at the home or opt out of social activities should they wish to do so.
4. Each person's interests should be supported whenever possible to encourage individuality and staff should:

- discuss individual needs with each resident and complete a list of their likes and dislikes
- encourage residents to attend social activities by informing them they are being held but respect their wishes if they do not wish to join in
- help the person remain as independent as possible and offer support and supervision as necessary
- be flexible and patient
- ensure that all activities are safe.

Social Activities at the Home

Activities are arranged by: *Sally Watson & Janet Hodge*

1. Staff should discuss with the above named persons any new ideas or suggestions for social activities.
2. Current activities at the home are composed of both indoor and outdoor pursuits and include arts and crafts, gardening, seated exercise sessions, reminiscence sessions, quizzes, singalongs, music sessions etc.
3. Holidays and short breaks are encouraged as are outings to places of local interest and also the taking of small groups out for meals.
4. We also arrange a wide variety of musical entertainment, reminiscent therapy and in-house games for the enjoyment of the residents. There are quizzes, word games and at Christmas and New Year, relatives and friends are invited to join our festivities. Every summer we have an annual Garden Party which is widely supported.
5. For residents who prefer a quieter time there are also a range of facilities that they can enjoy. They may choose to spend time in the gardens, or read the magazines and books provided by the mobile library.
6. Residents may order any magazines or newspapers that they wish to have delivered daily.

Training

1. All staff will be offered training to National Training Organisation standards covering basic information about individual care planning and the support of social activities.
2. Staff on escort duty when away from the home should be trained in aspects of safety.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Policy review date: _____