



ANDERIDA ADOLESCENT CARE

CONTACT POLICY

Anderida recognise the importance for all young people of safe contact with families and significant others. It is essential that there is an agreed plan in place when young people are placed at Anderida and that this agreement is regularly reviewed to ensure young people are supported to see loved ones.

Where it is safe, appropriate and within the relevant care order for significant others to be involved in the young person's care, Anderida will endeavour to support contact and promote participation by:

- Inviting significant others to attend care reviews/meetings.
- Providing weekly telephone updates.
- Ensuring significant others are informed promptly regarding significant incidents.
- Providing summaries to give an overview of the young person week.
- Providing 6 monthly CHAT reviews.
- Ensuring young people have access to telephone and email (within suitable risk assessments).
- Facilitating regular visits both in and out of the home.
- Supporting supervised contact.
- Arranging suitable facilities for visits.
- Providing transport for visits.
- Providing family mediation.
- Supporting young people to manage their thoughts, feelings and behaviour around their relationships.
- Advocate for the young person and request a review if the young person's contacts needs are not being met.
- Ensure young people are made aware of their legal rights and advocacy services to support them in addressing concerns with the local authority.
- Request a review of agreed contact if it is leading to difficulties in the young persons' care.

Contact needs to be agreed with the local authority and Anderida may require a suitable timescale for permission to be sought. Anderida will not, under any circumstances, use contact as a form of punishment. However, there may be some situations where a young person/significant other's behaviour is deemed unsafe, therefore affecting contact arrangements. In these circumstances Anderida will act in accordance with the 'Children's Homes Regulations 2015' which state:

'No measure may be imposed by the registered person pursuant to paragraph unless—

(a) the child's placing authority consents to the imposition of the measure; or

(b) the measure is imposed in an emergency, and full details are given to the placing authority within 24 hours of its imposition.

This regulation is subject to the provisions of any relevant court order relating to contact between the child and any person.'