

NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN

5 Kewferry Road, Northwood, HA6 2NS

Proposed.C8.Children's.Home.(0.Children)

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1. Introduction

This Noise Management Plan sets out the operational, behavioural, environmental, and supervision-based measures that will ensure the proposed children's home at **5 Kewferry Road, Northwood** operates in a way that:

- Protects neighbour amenity
- Prevents noise disturbance
- Preserves the peaceful residential character of the area
- Complies with relevant planning policy
- Ensures safe, quiet, domestic scale living for children

It has been structured to reflect the effective template used successfully elsewhere by the operator and expanded significantly to reflect the specific characteristics of **5 Kewferry Road** and the expectations of the London Borough of Hillingdon.

The home is registered (Ofsted) to provide long-term residential care for **4 children aged 10-17** under the leadership of a full-time **Registered Manager (Sandor Fulop)**.

No external alterations are proposed. The property remains a standard detached family home.

2. Site Context and Noise Environment

2.1 Location Advantages

A) Adjacent Primary School – Existing Ambient Noise Zone

The property directly adjoins a **primary school**, which regularly produces:

- Morning arrival sound
- Playground activity
- Lunchtime outdoor use
- After-school pick-up noise

This creates a **naturally higher daytime ambient noise level**, which means:

- Any incidental household noise from four supervised children is negligible in comparison
- Noise from the proposed use falls **well within** the existing baseline

- The proposal is acoustically compatible with the area's established character

This is a **major planning advantage**.

B) Detached Dwelling

The property shares **no internal walls** with neighbours.

This significantly reduces:

- Noise transmission
- Disturbance risk
- Perceived impact
- Need for structural interventions

Detached homes are considered ideal for C2 uses where amenity requires protection.

C) Only One Directly Adjoining Residential Neighbour

The home borders:

- The **school** on one side
- **One residential property** on the other

This means:

- Noise mitigation can be focused effectively on one boundary
- Outdoor use can be orientated away from the neighbour
- Amenity risk is naturally limited

This configuration reduces planning risks significantly compared to terraced or semi-detached homes.

3. Operational Ethos Supporting Quiet Use

The home operates as a:

- Calm
- Domestic
- Therapeutic
- Family-style environment

NOT as an institutional or high-activity setting.

The ethos prioritises:

- Predictable routines
- Quiet indoor activities
- De-escalation
- Respect for neighbours
- Emotional regulation
- Staff modelling calm behaviour

This supports a consistently quiet noise profile.

4. Staffing Model and Quiet Supervision

An **Enhanced Staffing Model (Option 2)** ensures high supervision levels at all times:

- **Daytime (07:30–22:30): 3 staff**
- **Evening (18:00–22:30): 2–3 staff**
- **Night (22:30–07:30): 2 staff** (1 waking, 1 sleep-in)

This ensures:

- Immediate intervention to prevent raised voices
- Oversight of outdoor activity
- Smooth transitions between activities
- Control of household noise levels
- Consistent emotional support for children

Staff actively model and enforce quiet behaviour.

5. Indoor Noise Control Measures

The interior acoustics of the property support noise management:

- ✓ **Carpets and soft furnishings absorb sound**
- ✓ **Double glazing contains internal noise**
- ✓ **Doors kept closed for zoning**
- ✓ **TVs and devices at controlled volumes**
- ✓ **Bedrooms used for quiet time**
- ✓ **Group activities supervised and moderated**

Children are encouraged to:

- Read
- Study
- Play board games
- Engage in arts/crafts
- Use gentle indoor hobbies

This ensures low indoor noise levels.

6. Outdoor Noise Control (Rear Garden Only)

All outdoor use is restricted to the **rear garden**, away from the street and neighbouring frontage.

6.1 Outdoor Hours

Outdoor use permitted **08:00–20:00 only**.

6.2 Supervised at All Times

A staff member is always present when children are outdoors.

6.3 Outdoor Restrictions

Prohibited:

- (excessive) Shouting
- (excessive) Screaming
- Outdoor music
- Other loud noise activities

These measures drastically reduce the risk of noise.

7. Boundary, Landscaping & Domestic SBD Noise Softening

Landscaping is used in a **domestic, SBD-sensitive way**, ensuring:

- No institutional fencing
- No security-style features
- Simply attractive planting that:
 - Softens sound
 - Preserves privacy
 - Maintains character
 - Supports neighbour amenity

Shrubs, hedges, and soft vegetation help contain any residual sound.

Rear-garden activity is naturally enclosed.

8. Vehicle Noise Management

All staff vehicles use the **onsite driveway only**.

Controls include:

- No on-street parking
- No engine idling
- Quiet arrival/departure
- No congregating outdoors
- No loud conversation near the boundary

Shift patterns are designed to avoid early-morning or late-night disturbance.

9. Quiet Hours Protocol

Quiet hours apply daily from:

20:00 – 08:00

During these hours:

- No outdoor activity
- No loud indoor play
- Music/TV kept low
- Doors/windows kept closed
- Staff actively maintain calm atmosphere

This exceeds typical household expectations.

10. Behavioural Controls Supporting Noise Reduction

Noise reduction is embedded in behaviour support:

- Trauma-informed practice
- Calm verbal redirection
- Early intervention to prevent escalation
- Structured routines
- Staff-led emotional regulation
- Positive reinforcement for quiet behaviour

- Restorative conversations after incidents

This ensures a stable, low-noise household.

11. Communication with the Neighbour

Given there is **only one adjoining neighbour**, communication is clear and simple:

- Registered Manager (Sandor Fulop) is available for any concerns
- All complaints are acknowledged within 24 hours
- Action taken immediately
- Review conducted to prevent repeat issues

This fosters trust and prevents escalation.

12. Monitoring, Logging & Continuous Improvement

Noise-related matters are logged if:

- A neighbour reports a concern
- Staff identify recurring patterns
- A behaviour support plan requires adjustment

The Registered Manager reviews:

- Noise logs (if any)
- Staff practice
- Garden use
- Shift routines
- Household dynamics

Monthly quality assurance includes noise review.

13. Planning Policy Alignment

This Noise Management Plan aligns with:

✓ London Plan D14 (Noise)

Emphasises operational management as a key noise mitigation tool.

✓ NPPF Paragraph 130

Requires development to protect neighbour amenity.

✓ Hillingdon Policy DMHB 11

Protects residential character and relationship with surroundings.

✓ Hillingdon Policy DMH 8

Supports C2 uses where residential amenity is respected.

✓ Hillingdon Policy DMT 2

Confirms low transport/noise impact from managed parking.

The use is demonstrably compatible with the site.

14. Conclusion

The proposed children's home at **5 Kewferry Road** will operate:

- Quietly
- Calmly
- Predictably
- With high supervision
- With limited outdoor use
- With full neighbour consideration
- Within an already child-centred noise environment
- With only one noise-sensitive boundary
- Inside a detached, acoustically favourable structure