

Southlands School: Children's home



Locality Risk Assessment

Regulation 46 (incorporating 12(2)(c) The Protection of Children Standard)

Version 12th September 2022

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Ofsted Registration Number (Children's home): SC482294

Completed by: Alison Priddle, Jack Murphy updated Lauren Stubley



Name of Home: Southlands School	Date Plan Completed: September 2022 To be reviewed date: May 2023
Key area: Risks associated to the location of the Provision	
Background (detail size of home, location, type of property, type of service)	
<p>Southlands is part of the Cambian Group and is a 52-week residential children’s home specialising in the care of young people of all genders who are between the ages of 7 and 19. All young people who live in the home attend Southlands School which is on the same site, as part of their provision. The home specialises in supporting young people who have a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC). The majority of young people have an Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP) with their primary special need being ASC typically functioning at Level 1 (DSM-5) They may have a variety of additional special education needs associated with ASC. We are able to support and care for individuals with associated complex needs such as:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • language and social communication • social emotional • sensory processing • co-morbid difficulties associated with ASD such as ADHD • heightened anxiety • self-harm • dyslexia • dyspraxia <p>Young people may demonstrate difficulties in a range of key areas of development affecting everyday life and some have significant support needs. These difficulties may include social understanding and communication, flexibility, coordination and sequencing, attention and concentration and repetitive and obsessive behaviours. Our young people can on occasion present with behaviours that challenge. We use non-aversive, positive behavior approaches and crisis prevention interventions to support and maintain relationships. Our usual staffing level is 1:3 (staff to young people) and any additional level of staff support is dependent on individual need and level of independence We support young people either on a residential 38 weekly, 38 week termly or 52 week a year basis.</p> <p>Southlands is set in extensive grounds and located in the rural village of Boldre. The environment is not secure and has been risk assessed and made safe for our young people to enjoy. We are very lucky to have some wonderful resources here at the home: educational and leisure facilities include the therapeutic and sensory rooms, an ICT suite, a gymnasium, outdoor play equipment, outdoor swimming pool. Living in a National Park, we are surrounded by some beautiful places for the young people here to visit. No matter what direction you head in you are guaranteed to find a place of natural beauty. Below are just a few examples which are in our close vicinity.</p> <p>The living accommodation is arranged across individual homes with between 4,5 or 6 bedrooms. All our houses situated within the home’s environment are staffed with a dedicated trained team to support every need of young people. The homes are accessed via a key pad system and the code is known only to all young people living in the home.</p>	

					
TANNERS LANE 2.7 Miles	LYNDHURST 6.8 Miles	NEW FOREST 0.4 Miles	LYMINGTON 1 Mile	BOLDRE VILLAGE 0.2 Miles	BEAULIEU VILLAGE 5.3 Miles

Cambian Contacts	Name	Contact Details	Other Professionals	Name	Contact Details
Interim Head of Care	Jack Murphy	Jack.Murphy2@cambiagroup.com 01590 675350	Local PSCO Officer	Officer:	Contact through 101 Lymington Neighbourhood Policing Team Lymington Police Station Southampton Road LymingtonSO419GH New.Forest.West@hampshire.pnn.police.uk
Principal (Pending Responsible Individual (RI) application in process)	Alison Priddle Senior oversight of safeguarding	Alison.Priddle@cambiagroup.com			
Southlands Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Rachel Maidment DSL	Rachel.Maidment@cambiagroup.com	LADO	Barbara Piddington Mark Blackwell Fiona Armfield	barbara.piddington@hants.gov.uk mark.blackwell@hants.gov.uk Fiona.armfield@hants.gov.uk csprofessional@hants.gov.uk 01962 876364/876265
	Mark Gilbert DDSL	Mark.Gilbert1@cambiagroup.com Jack.Murphy2@cambiagroup.com			
	Jack Murphy DSL	Holly.Jeffery@cambiagroup.com			
	Holly Jeffrey DDSL	Hayley.Mussell@cambiagroup.com			
	Hayley Mussell Supporting DDSL				

Director for Improving Children's Services	Tom Burford	tom.burford@Cambiangroup.com 07796678840	Local safeguarding partnership	No named contact	https://www.hampshirescp.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/
Group Facilities Risk Manager	Colin Muddle	colin.muddle@cambiangroup.com 020 8735 6150	Hants Children's Services	Social Care Referral and Assessment Team	childrens.services@hants.gov.uk 0300 555 1384 Mon-Fri 9.00am – 5.00pm Out of hours team. 0300 555 1373 5.00pm – 9.00am
Hampshire Youth Offending Team	Paul Briggs 02380 498183 paul.briggs@hants.gov.uk	Team Maanger Hampshire House 84-98 Southampton road Eastleigh SO50 5PA			
Hampshire CAMHS	New forest CAMHS	Child & Family Centre, Ashurst, Southampton SO40 7AR Professionals Telephone Consultation Line 12.00-1.00pm daily New Forest 02380 743000			
Hampshire Probation Services	No named contact	1st Floor, Cromwell House 15 Andover Road Winchester SO23 7EZ Call: 0300 047 2000 Email: enquiries@hampshire.probation.gsi.gov.uk			
GP Surgery	Dr Tew	Webb Peploe 01590 674118 45 church lane, Lymington, SO423RA			

Local Education Services / Schools within 5 miles of Southlands School

Service	Contact Name & Position	Address	Telephone No
William Gilpin C of E Primary school	Simon Croutear - Headteacher	Pilley Hill, Boldre, Lymington SO41 5QG	01590 673460
Hill House School (SEN)	Kate Landells - Principal	Rope Hill, Lymington SO41 8NE	01590 672147
South Baddesley C of E Primary school	Anne Moir – Head teacher	South Baddesley, Lymington SO41 5RP	01590 626243
Priestlands School	P G Main – Head teacher	North St, Pennington, Lymington SO41 8FZ	01590 677033
Pennington Juniors School	Mrs Kirstie Richards – Head teacher	Priestlands Road, Pennington, Lymington, SO41 8HX	01590 672104
Brockenhurst C Of E Primary School	Mr John Littlewood – Head teacher	Sway Road, Brockenhurst, Hampshire SO42 7RX	01590 623163
Walhampton school	Mr Jonny Tims – Head Master	School Ln, Walhampton, Lymington SO41 5ZG	01590 613300

Additional Information	
Is the home in a community location?	No. The home is located in a small rural village called Boldre, just outside Lymington. It could be considered semi-rural. There are a cluster of residential / farming properties clustered around the vicinity to the site.
Are there any risks to young people in the immediate location?	Yes, – Small narrow unlit local rural roads, uninvited visitor access; access from adjoining farm land and marshlands. The Lymington river runs along the westerly border of the site – across a farmer’s field. This can be accessed via the farmer’s field or via a path on Undershore road. Due to Southlands being in the New Forest there are many farms and/or wild animals located in the lands surrounding the site which could pose risk to young people.
Is the home in a high crime area? See guidance on how to check your stats	Boldre is not a high crime area statistically. Highest levels of crime tend to be related to anti-social behaviour in the local town. Through consulting Hampshire Crime Map it has in the region of 20 recorded crimes to have taken place in the month of February. These have been recorded in the areas surrounding Southlands (Lymington, Boldre & Pilley). Majority of these recorded are crimes of theft, shop lifting and burglary and some violent crimes. The risk of this impacting on the home is low at present time.
Is there is a likelihood of children placed in the home becoming drawn into gang crime or anti-social behaviour in the local area.	The area is not known for gang related concerns and the risk of ‘county lines’ concerns is considered high into Hampshire generally, but lower into Lymington. However the site remains at risk owing to the number of young people who go to and from the site and the relative vulnerability of service users. The risk of being drawn into crime is also considered low in the local community. The School has made contact with New forest Police with a request for information on whether there is areas of risk in the surrounding area to the home which we would benefit knowing. No hotspots or areas of particular concern in the local area and nothing above the normal within Southampton.

Does the home have a good relationship with local anti-social behaviour groups and police?	Yes, good relationship with neighbours, local Police and PCSO.
Does the location of the home influence the potential for an already vulnerable child to be a victim of crime, such as being targeted for sexual or criminal exploitation.	No – the risks associated with being drawn into CSE because of where the home is located is considered low. There is currently limited data to draw on relating to young people within Lymington being criminally exploited and used as drug mules across(county lines) We have also made contact with New forest Police with a request for information on whether there is areas of risk in the surrounding area to the home which we would benefit knowing. The response is that there is no heightened risk in our location, but the young people and their vulnerability is known and the PCSO will add young people to their data base as and when they start accessing the community to highlight their vulnerability.
Consultation measure with young people	Yes, with young people in homes meetings, questionnaires and in discussion with independent advocates, Reg 44 visitors young people have stated that they feel safe in and around the home. On arrival individuals are introduced into the home and provided with keeping safe information and supervised at an appropriate level at all times dependent on needs, those that have higher levels of independence on/off-site have undertaken appropriate life/social skills training and risk assessment.

Risk Management to effectively safeguard children and young people and ensure they access services to meet needs identified in their care plans or placement plans

Risks to Young People	Control Measures	Current risk	Historical Risk
The main site establishment is located within a rural community and the on site homes are situated with 7.5 acres of land some of which is located close to country lanes, farm land and marshlands.	When young people are at the roadside make sure they are walking on the inside of the pavement, they are supervised at all times and in some situations holding a staff member's hand. For those who access the site / community independently, high vis vests, torches and will be encouraged to use them.	LOW	LOW
Our young people have a diagnosis that falls within an ASD and some have an additional complex needs, they are however a very able group of young people aged 7-19.	Training is given to ensure that all staff are aware of the different, individual support needs of the young people here.	LOW	LOW
The New Forest is a rural location within Hampshire, and can attract a significant number of holiday makers in the summer months.	Ensure when going out into the community the young people receive the correct staffing ratio and risk assessed to ensure all are supported appropriately. On occasions informing a member of the public that a young person has a disability can help with understanding individual needs.	LOW	LOW
There is a large man-made fishing lake within the grounds.	There is a boundary fence and access is restricted by a locked gate. Activities within the fishing pond area are supervised and risk assessed and signs indicating a need to be alert to the dangers.	LOW	LOW

There is an outdoor swimming pool on site.	There is a boundary fence and access is restricted by a locked gate. All swimming activities are supervised by suitably qualified staff (Trained lifeguards). At no time is a young person allowed to access the swimming area unsupported. There are relevant risk assessments and protocols in place.	LOW	LOW
We are in close proximity to our neighbours on both sides and the grounds are semi secure with fencing around the entire site but the entrances are not routinely kept locked.	When young people are walking around the grounds they are supported appropriately either by having somebody in close proximity or in eyesight of staff where appropriate. All visitors must report to the reception area and sign in. Where there is an unfamiliar visitor, they are asked to produce ID prior to being allowed access to other areas within the site. Young people are taught how to stay safe on site and within the local community.	LOW	LOW
Young people living in the home are also educated in a school that shares the same site.	Transitions between home and school does not involve crossing road, however, the environment can become busy with the arrival of day students into the school, during these times and transitions between lessons are overseen.	LOW	LOW
Vehicles accessing the home's car parks, taxi transportation of daily students, home's minibuses transitioning, deliveries in /out of school.	Car parks are situated away from the individual homes, they are clearly marked and staff have designated spaces. There are clearly marked road signage which states speed restrictions, and also speed humps to slow drivers down. There is a one-way system in operation to help with the safe management and avoid congestion at peak times. Additional fencing has been introduced as a barrier to on site traffic, this has gated access points which are controlled during congested times (early arrival and after school drop off- pick up).	LOW	LOW
The majority of young people need staff support to access activities on and off site as they do not have the ability to do this without support.	Activities are risk assessed prior to happening, this determines safe staffing levels, and ensuring the activity is as safe as it can be, its about eliminating risk as far as practicable. These are reviewed periodically to promote as much independence as possible.	LOW	LOW
Risks to Young People	Control Measures	Current risk	Historical Risk
Some of the young people have a limited understanding around 'stranger danger'	Our young people all have a required amount of support needs, this is identified within their individual risk assessment, and all support is tailored around their support needs. Any visitor who comes on site report to reception, sign in and have their identity verified.	LOW	LOW

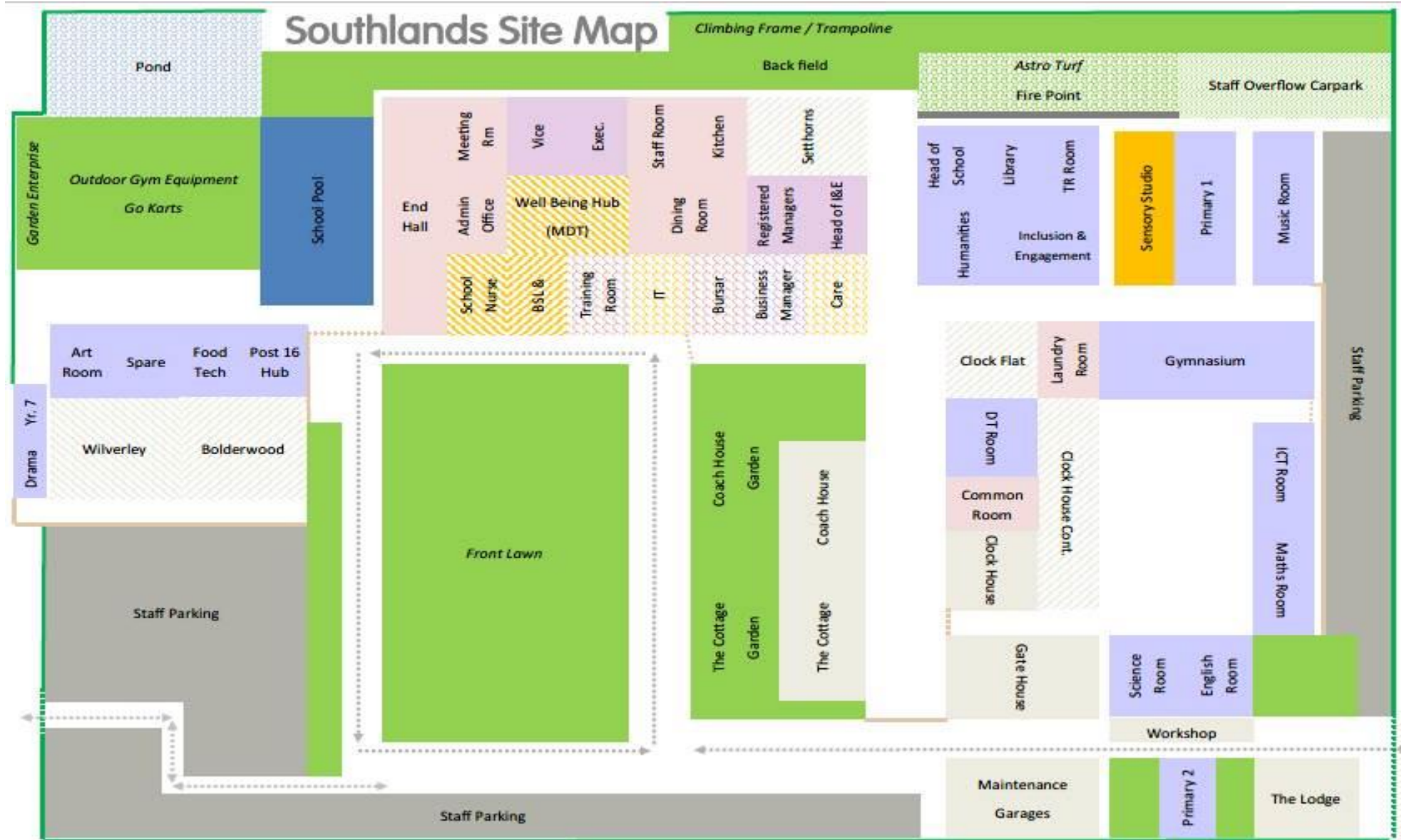
	<p>There are signs around the site for making contact if main reception is closed. All visitors are accompanied at all times unless they have enhanced DBS clearance.</p> <p>Young people are supported through learning sessions around understanding the dangers associated with strangers, in order to maintain safety.</p>		
Some young people are unaware of road safety.	Young people are taught road safety awareness and are supported with walking along the road side, staff will walk on the outside nearest the traffic, to reduce the danger. Some of our young people have earned a greater level of independence and can access the wider community safely unsupervised.	LOW	LOW
Risk of fire within the home setting	<p>Homes all have a sophisticated fire detection system installed which is tested very week, fire drills are practiced on a regular basis or sooner where there is a need.</p> <p>Whilst the perimeter and some internal areas are fenced, easy access points for emergency vehicles are appropriately situated for ease of access.</p>	LOW	LOW
Young people may engage inappropriately with members of the public in the community.	Where there is a need staff supporting the young person will discreetly explain to a member of public and request them to contact the school if they have any concerns about what has happened. In rare instances of dangerous behaviour the local police may need to be involved, any such incidents would lead to a revised risk assessment for the individual concerned.	LOW	LOW
The school has a public right of way through parts of the local fields.	Members of staff are aware of this when walking with young people through these parts. The pathways and entrance/exit are maintained.	LOW	LOW
Some behaviour can at times have an impact on the fabric of the building.	<p>Any damage made to the fabric of the building needs to be reported immediately and any necessary damage fixed immediately.</p> <p>There is an online system in place for the maintenance team to prioritise tasks.</p>	LOW	LOW
Some young people may leave the site without permission.	In this event, there is a missing person's protocol specific to each young person that staff follow. Senior management and parents will be informed and kept updated along with the relevant authority. Where a call needs to be made to the local police following agreed protocols for the individual. This is recorded on the relevant documentation, alongside a full chronology of events. Where appropriate the young	LOW	LOW

	person will be supported through a debrief session Risk assessments will be reviewed and updated where necessary.		
Due to the extensive grounds, vegetation, flowers can be found that may be harmful to young people if ingested.	Any areas/items of concern are made known to the maintenance / grounds team so action to reduce any risk from occurring. Staff are made aware of any particular areas on site that are a concern so that these areas can be avoided. There is a separate risk assessment in place to address and harmful plants, vegetation that may be prone to growing within the home / school site. Young people are taught what can be found growing within the environment that may cause them harm if ingested.	LOW	LOW
Recruitment - There are a number of known social care services within the local areas. Mainly these are elderly care homes but there is at least one known children's home approx. 2 miles from Southlands. As a site we compete with the in the local jobs market.	A progressive approach to recruitment, focusing on the differences to ensure that this talent pool is accessible by Southlands. The local children's home is for a national organisation At present the pipeline of staff is minimal, and there appears to be very few applicants. We have advertised locally, attended recruitment fairs, amended the advert to incorporate the young persons voice. We are in the process of reorganisation of the homes onsite to better support the young people	Medium	Medium
Proximity to the local river which is deep and fast flowing. This can be accessed a long a track to the left of the main entrance but also by crossing the farm fields at the bottom of the main field.	The site is now fenced all around. Young people risk assessments for those with suicidal idealisation to include this as a concern. Where the risk is deemed high young people will be supported 1:1 to ensure their safety.	Medium	Medium
Proximity to the national park – propensity for absconders to get away into the enclosures. They would be able to hide easier and it would be almost impossible to track. The young people may not have in-depth knowledge of the enclosures and so this could lead to them becoming lost and suffering from exposure.	When young people have a profile where going missing / absenting from care / running away from carers is prevalent we have a site wide response to send staff to the main gates so we can track / monitor and engage with young people to support them in making positive choices. There are no front gates to the main drive, as this environment is not classed as secure.	LOW	LOW
Wild animals are found in the nearby enclosures of the new forest. It is not unknown for deer to stray onto school property.	We have an anti-deer perimeter fence and staff are aware of the forestry commissions role should this happen.	LOW	LOW
Farm animals have historically accessed the site after damaging fences. They can now access the fishing area, but not the wider site due to upgrades of the perimeter fencing. They leave behind faeces and if they came into contact with the young people they could become spooked and charge the young people.	The perimeter fencing around the main site is suitable to prevent this from happening. We have the farmer's number and can contact him to come and collect his animals and repair his fencing should this occur.	LOW	LOW

<p>Trains are accessed via Lymington which has two train stations. There is a level crossing which anyone walking from Southlands has to cross. Along with a bridge / sluice gate for the Lymington river. This area is dangerous should anyone want to harm themselves. It also provides intriguing play areas for any young person wanting to explore. It is possible to access the rail line at the ferry terminal and cross over a rail bridge to walk towards Lymington town station.</p> <p>This does pose a potential risk for some students where a plan is in place with clear directions and mitigating strategies</p>	<p>All independent programmes are planned, monitored and reviewed. All risks are highlighted to staff whom would search / check these areas in the event of a young person going missing.</p> <p>Emergency concerns are reported via 999 or other concerns Text 61016 to report a crime or incident.</p> <p>Any Young Person who accesses the line, 999 are called to close the line immediately.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Medium</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Medium</p>
<p>Ferry terminal is less than one mile from the site and offers direct access to the Isle of Wight. There is a risk of any young people who live on the island trying to access the ferry to get home. There is also a risk regarding heavy traffic flow as the cars disembark which can lead to the local roads being congested. It also leads to heavy tourist traffic in the summer months.</p>	<p>All independent programmes are planned, monitored and reviewed. Areas of known risk are identified to staff who would search / check these areas in the event of a young person going missing</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LOW</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LOW</p>
<p>Electricity pylons are numerous in the local area and could be a temptation for young people to climb. This could lead to a risk of electrocution. They could only be accessed by an unsupervised young person.</p>	<p>Independent programmes are planned, monitored and reviewed. All areas of known risk are identified to staff whom would search / check these areas in the event of a young person going missing</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LOW</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LOW</p>
<p>Drugs / County lines: Hampshire is one of the main transit and destinations for London organised county lines gangs. We use the child exploitation disruption toolkit to assess, and respond to any concerns and report them directly to the LA concerned.</p>	<p>We include this in independent travel plans for any of our young people who transition from home to school independently.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LOW</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LOW</p>
<p>Agricultural impact - there are a lot of farms in the local area. This means that at times there is an increased number of farm machinery on the roads, this can lead to congestion. They are a hazard in themselves as often they are towing machinery which a young person could be tempted to try and access, either in transit or whilst in the local fields.</p>	<p>Young people are in line of sight to staff at all times where required. Staff are aware when a young person leaves the site. Staff are aware of the areas / roads of higher risks.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LOW</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LOW</p>
<p>Entrances – there are two entrances which have gates but these are only closed at night. This means that members of the public could access the site freely.</p>	<p>Staff are highly vigilant for people without ID. All visitors are requested to show their ID.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LOW</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LOW</p>
<p>Number of young people on site is high for one residential home. A max of 42 young people across 9 homes. These numbers fluctuate at weekends and half terms due to the mix of education placements and LAC children. This creates risk in managing the emotions of the young people who remain whilst others go back to their parents. This can put pressure on resources – vehicles, onsite activities and creates issues if a number of young people are displaying anxiety and needing additional support. Some of these issues can be traumatic for those whom witness these behaviours. Due to the above pressures it can be hard for young people to get away from these issues.</p>	<p>Staffing ratios of staff on site, lowest 1-3 Where funded some young people are 1:1 7 large vehicles utilised on a rota basis Planned activities for weekends, holidays and on travel days to ensure that the 52 week placements are supported to cope with the transition of peers return to their families.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LOW</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LOW</p>

Local amenities are good – shops, transport links are good. There are few community / youth groups / sports clubs. Making community involvement difficult. There are no paths to local amenities so the young people have to go through a long risk assessment process with stringent checks. This in itself is prohibitive in regards to accessing the local amenities.	Access to the local areas of Bournemouth and Southampton. Clubs are sought out in areas where the young people can make connections with mainstream peers. Where required staff will support young people to access these amenities.	LOW	LOW
Public houses – there are two public houses within walking distance. These offer low skilled employment opportunities. The pubs are small village pubs so there aren't large crowds.	<p>Where young people are under the age of 18 they will be accompanied by an adult if they are to enter these premises, unless it is agreed prior to them to go. This could be if a young person is going to watch a sporting event or something of a similar reason. They are not to permit to consume alcohol at any point during this period.</p> <p>If the young person is over the age of 18 and deemed to have capacity the young person can consume alcohol but with request that this is done in a responsible manner. The young person will inform staff of the venue they are going to, there is the request that the young person will give an approximate time of returning to the home.</p>	LOW	LOW
Wealth- The area surrounding Southlands is deemed an area of wealth. This provides an increased risk of theft and/or burglary related crime to occur in this area. Statistically through Hampshire crime statistics it is found that crimes of this nature occur more than any other crime. This could cause a risk to our young people if for any reason Southlands was a target of theft or our young people were to be present and witness a crime taking place.	<p>If a stranger enters the site and is unknown or acting in a suspicious manner, or near the grounds, if safe to do so, staff will approach and make a request for their identity, if there are concerns staff will contact the police.</p> <p>If someone is found unlawfully on site then they will also be asked to leave immediately, unless this is deemed too dangerous then staff are to prioritise in getting all young people to a place of safety before phoning the police.</p> <p>If a young person is to witness a crime staff are to conduct the same protocol as an allegation when recording. This is to then be shared with the police when reporting a suspected crime has been committed.</p>	LOW	LOW
Isolation in inclement weather leads to accessibility issues. There is potential for the Vicars Hill area to become an island under extreme rainfall. When snowfall is heaving or there is ice on the road, two of the roads are inaccessible due to the steep incline of the roads.	Emergency plan in place.	LOW	LOW
CSE – Following feedback at a recent training course where networking was encouraged, it is known to us that Pennington (a village adjoining Lymington) has a high number of convicted sex offenders	Young people will not be supported to access amenities in this area.	LOW	LOW

<p>Radicalisation – the area has low levels known extremist groups.</p>	<p>In the event of a young person exhibiting behaviours of concern in relation to Radicalisation ideation Southlands will make a referral to the Prevent and/or Channel organisations. Annual training is provided to all staff.</p>	<p>LOW</p>	<p>LOW</p>
<p>Radical Violence into Extremism - There is no known history of this in the local area and is not a present risk to the young people placed at Southlands School</p>	<p>In the event of a young person exhibiting behaviours of concern in relation to Radicalisation ideation Southlands will make a referral to the Prevent and/or Channel organisations. Annual training is provided to all staff.</p>	<p>LOW</p>	<p>LOW</p>
<p>FGM- There is currently no known risk or known cases of FGM to have occurred or been reported within the local vicinity of Southlands School at this current time.</p>	<p>In the event that there is a concern in respect of suspicion that FGM is and/or has taken place staff are to contact the police at the next available opportunity if it is deemed the young person is in immediate danger. Annual training is provided to all staff.</p>	<p>LOW</p>	<p>LOW</p>



All crimes are displayed within a 1 mile radius of Lymington, Hampshire, SO41 5QB, England. In some instances crimes stretching over Village, Town or County boundaries may be included in the results. Statistic below are for the month of February 2022 (the most recent available) source [Lymington and Pennington Crime and Safety Statistics \(crimedata.co.uk\)](http://crimedata.co.uk) showing the break down of the total 20 crimes reported in the given month

The 2019 Indices of Deprivation for Lymington & local areas.

Information from the Dept. of Local Government and communities (<http://opendatacommunities.org/showcase/deprivation>) give a ranking order from 1-10 (a lower rank meaning that an area is most deprived) of deprivation in a postal area based on different data available. The area of Boldre SO41 5QB where the home is based is ranked overall as an 9.

Postcode	LSOA Name	Income	Employment	Education and Skills	Health and Disability	Crime	Barriers to Housing & Services	Living Environment
SO41 5QB	New Forest 017A E01022990	9	9	8	10	7	2	3

