

Evidence Extraction Sheet

Applicant: Matthew Ross | DOB: 7 March 1965 | Source file reviewed: 111-page scanned social-work record

Identity	Matthew Ross; date of birth 7 March 1965. Home address repeatedly recorded as 5 Buchanan Street, Johnstone.
Primary care setting	St Ninian's School, Falkland, Fife.
Placing / supervising body	Strathclyde Regional Council Social Work Department; County of Renfrew Social Work Department records also appear.
Legal framework	Children's Hearing supervision requirements under the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, including residential supervision and later variation/continuation.
Key limitation	No clear contemporaneous record was identified in this file of physical or sexual abuse by staff or residents at St Ninian's. The file primarily supports placement, legal status, education, behaviour, family circumstances, leave and impact evidence.

Detailed page-reference schedule

The entries below record the material most relevant to placement, legal status, leave, education, psychological impact, life impact and potentially contradictory evidence.

PDF page	Internal date / page	Author / record type	Care setting	Category	Factual extract / finding	Relevance	Evidence type / legibility
7	c. 1982	Investigation notes / social background form	Family home / social work	Identity	Names Matthew Ross, address 5 Buchanan Street, Johnstone, DOB 7 March 1965 and age 17.	Confirms identity details used throughout the file.	Corroborative; handwritten/typed form; generally legible.
20	Hearing 6 Oct 1981	Reporter to Children's Panel	Children's Hearing	Legal status	Notice of hearing for Matthew Ross; appearance reason shown as annual review.	Confirms continuing statutory review by the Children's Hearing system.	Direct evidence of legal process; partly redacted.
21	15 Oct 1981	Reporter memorandum	Children's Hearing	Legal status	Decision recorded as supervision terminated.	Evidence of termination of a supervision requirement at that date.	Direct legal-status evidence; partly redacted.
22	6 Oct 1981	Form 13 - terminating supervision requirement	Children's Hearing	Legal status	Formal instrument terminating supervision requirement.	Direct evidence of the legal end-point of one supervision order.	Direct evidence; typed form with handwriting.
25	Hearing 4 Nov 1980	Reporter memorandum	Children's Hearing	Legal status	Decision states supervision continued.	Confirms continuing supervision during the period.	Direct evidence; partly redacted.
26	4 Nov 1980	Form 12 - continuing supervision requirement	Children's Hearing	Legal status	Formal continuation of supervision requirement.	Strong proof of continued statutory supervision.	Direct evidence; typed/handwritten and legible.
33	19 Apr 1979	Form 12 - continuing supervision requirement	Children's Hearing / St Ninian's	Placement / legal status	Names Matthew Ross and records continuation of supervision; handwritten note refers to St Ninian's School, Falkland, Fife.	Supports the legal basis and continuation of the residential placement.	Direct evidence; mixed typed/handwritten.
35	14 Apr 1978	Assessment Team memorandum	Pre-placement assessment	Placement planning	Lists Matthew Ross for an assessment appointment with social worker Miss S. Barker.	Shows pre-placement assessment activity immediately before the residential recommendation.	Corroborative; partly redacted.

PDF page	Internal date / page	Author / record type	Care setting	Category	Factual extract / finding	Relevance	Evidence type / legibility
41	Assessment period, 1981	Quarrier's Homes - West Yonderton I.T. Project assessment report	Community assessment project	Psychological / developmental impact	Records unstable home life, lack of stimulation from home and poor self-image as reasons for referral.	Evidence of emotional and developmental vulnerability; not evidence of institutional abuse.	Impact evidence; typed and legible.
43	Assessment report continuation	Quarrier's group worker	Community assessment project	Emotional / psychological	Describes quiet presentation, need for confidence, difficulty relating to some young people and concern about family relationships.	Corroborates emotional and relationship difficulties.	Impact evidence; typed and legible.
46	5 Nov 1979	Residential social worker letter	St Ninian's School, Falkland	Placement / contradictory dates	States that following a Children's Hearing on 19 April 1979, Matthew was admitted to St Ninian's in June 1979 on a trial basis.	Supports residence but conflicts with other records indicating May 1978 admission/placement. Must be explained in the applicant statement.	Direct placement evidence; typed, legible; date discrepancy.
47	26 Jan 1978	Education report for Children's Hearing	School before placement	Education / impact	Records chronic truancy and limited educational functioning.	Shows pre-placement educational disruption and need for intervention.	Corroborative impact evidence; typed form.
48	26 Jan 1978	Education report continuation	School before placement	Education / emotional	Describes remedial course, very low academic assessment, frequent truancy and behavioural concerns.	Supports interrupted education and developmental impact.	Corroborative impact evidence; typed/handwritten.
49	13 Jun 1974	Child Guidance Centre letter	Education / family home	Education / developmental	Reports educational delay, poor attendance and concerns regarding home circumstances and supervision.	Longitudinal evidence of educational and developmental difficulties before care placement.	Corroborative; typed and legible.
51	1 May 1975	Child Guidance Centre letter	Education / family home	Education / developmental	Records continuing difficulties, poor progress and concern about the child's circumstances.	Further longitudinal evidence of educational impact.	Corroborative; typed, partly faint.
53	4 Nov 1980 to 2 Oct 1981	Social-work supervision notes	Family home / community supervision	Behaviour / emotional impact	Records recurring behavioural, family and communication difficulties and continued social-work monitoring.	Evidence of ongoing impact and statutory involvement after or during placement periods.	Corroborative impact evidence; typed, some dense text.
55	11 Sep 1980	Transfer summary by social worker	Family / community supervision	Life impact	Summarises long-standing family instability, educational problems, poor self-image and difficulties in relationships.	Useful overview of cumulative impact and care history.	Corroborative; typed and legible.
56	23 Jun 1980 and July 1980	Supervision notes	Family home	Substance use / family context	Records concern about drinking, family conflict and instability.	Relevant to substance-use and coping history, but the record does not expressly link alcohol to abuse.	Corroborative; typed.
57	July-Aug 1980	Supervision notes	Family home / community	Substance use / offending	Further references to alcohol, offending, work and family tension.	Shows developing life-impact issues; causation should not be assumed.	Corroborative; typed, dense.
58	May-Jun 1980	Supervision notes	Family home	Family / emotional	Records failed appointments, family tension and concerns about home relationships.	Contextual evidence of instability and emotional impact.	Corroborative; typed.
66	2 Jul 1980	West Yonderton I.T. Project assessment report	Community project	Identity / psychological	Confirms Matthew Ross, DOB 7 March 1965, age 15, address, school and supervision status; identifies unstable home life, lack of stimulation and poor self-image.	Strong identity and impact evidence.	Direct/corroborative; typed and legible.

PDF page	Internal date / page	Author / record type	Care setting	Category	Factual extract / finding	Relevance	Evidence type / legibility
69	28 Aug 1979	Social worker letter to DHSS	Home leave from St Ninian's	Temporary leave	Explains that Matthew would be home on leave from St Ninian's for a specified period and seeks benefit arrangements.	Direct evidence of residential placement and temporary home leave.	Direct placement evidence; typed and legible.
70	12 Jun 1979	St Ninian's school circular	St Ninian's School	Home leave / residence	Sets out summer residential arrangements, dates boys would return home and dates they were expected back at school.	Corroborates the residential nature of the school and leave structure.	Institutional corroboration; typed and legible.
71	1979-1980	Supervision notes	St Ninian's / family home	Leave / care review	Records discussions about leave, return arrangements, family circumstances and social-work oversight.	Supports chronology of care and continuing monitoring.	Corroborative; typed, faint in places.
76	Nov 1978-Jan 1979	Supervision notes	St Ninian's / family home	Placement / family contact	Records periods when Matthew was home from St Ninian's and social-work involvement with family difficulties.	Evidence of continued residence with periods of leave.	Corroborative; typed and legible.
77	26 Jun 1978	Supervision notes	St Ninian's School	Emotional impact / contradictory evidence	Records Matthew had returned home early on Friday evenings, had concerns about St Ninian's, and felt some of his views had been misrepresented; also records positive social activity and settling observations.	Potential evidence of unhappiness or reluctance, but not a clear abuse disclosure. Also contains positive evidence that must be addressed fairly.	Corroborative/contradictory; typed, dense.
78	13 Jul and 20 Jul 1978	Supervision notes	St Ninian's / home leave	Placement / leave	Records Matthew at home from St Ninian's on holiday and discussions about return and family circumstances.	Directly supports temporary leave and ongoing residential placement.	Corroborative; typed and legible.
80	16-21 Jun 1978	Supervision notes	St Ninian's / home	Placement / leave	Records telephone and home visits, planned leave and communication with St Ninian's staff.	Supports active residential placement and social-work supervision.	Corroborative; typed and legible.
81	13 Dec 1979	Form 11 - variation of supervision requirement	St Ninian's School / Strathclyde	Placement / legal status	Formal Children's Hearing instrument varying an existing supervision requirement and placing Matthew under the supervision of the Director of Social Work, Strathclyde; residence conditions are referenced.	Strong legal proof of statutory placement/supervision.	Direct evidence; handwritten/typed, reasonably legible.
82	Hearing 4 May 1978	Reporter memorandum	St Ninian's School, Falkland	Placement / legal status	Decision expressly records residential supervision at St Ninian's, Falkland.	One of the strongest documents proving the care setting and legal decision.	Direct evidence; partly redacted but key wording visible.
83	4 May 1978	Supervision requirement	St Ninian's School, Falkland, Fife	Placement / legal status	Formal instrument requires Matthew Ross to reside at St Ninian's School, Falkland, Fife under supervision.	Primary proof of placement, care setting and legal basis.	Direct evidence; handwritten/typed, legible.
84	26 Mar 1979	Residential social worker report	St Ninian's School	Residence / education	States that when Matthew arrived at St Ninian's he was unable to read or write effectively and describes progress during residence.	Direct confirmation of residence and educational impact.	Direct/corroborative; typed and legible.
85	26 Mar 1979 continuation	Residential social worker report	St Ninian's School	Education / contradictory evidence	Describes generally respectful behaviour, anxiety, isolation and improvement; recommends continuation of supervision.	Supports continued placement and impact, while also recording positive adjustment.	Corroborative/contradictory; typed and legible.

PDF page	Internal date / page	Author / record type	Care setting	Category	Factual extract / finding	Relevance	Evidence type / legibility
88	15 Jun 1979	Social worker report	St Ninian's School	Admission / placement	States Matthew had been admitted to St Ninian's, apparently on 15 May 1978, and describes his progress.	Strong evidence of admission and residence; admission date should be reconciled with page 46.	Direct placement evidence; typed, legible.
89	1978-1979 school year	St Ninian's School calendar	St Ninian's School	Leave / residence	Lists term dates, weekend leave and holiday arrangements for resident boys.	Corroborates residential operation and likely leave periods.	Institutional corroboration; typed and legible.
90	4 Sep 1978	Social worker letter to Matthew	St Ninian's School	Residence / return from leave	Letter addressed to Matthew at St Ninian's and refers to his holiday at home and return/settling at school.	Direct correspondence proving residence at the institution.	Direct corroboration; typed and legible.
91	6 Jun 1978	Social worker letter to Matthew	St Ninian's School	Residence	Letter addressed to Matthew at St Ninian's and asks how he is settling down and getting to know the boys and staff.	Direct evidence that he was resident by June 1978.	Direct corroboration; typed and legible.
92	21 Apr 1978	Social worker letter to Bosco House	Proposed residential placement	Placement planning	Records that the Assessment Team considered Matthew in need of placement away from home; Bosco House declined the referral.	Shows placement planning and an alternative placement that did not proceed.	Corroborative; typed and legible.
94	2 May 1978	Area social worker letter	St Ninian's School	Placement planning	Asks St Ninian's to consider Matthew for residential placement and describes the proposed interview.	Direct evidence of referral and who arranged the placement.	Direct placement-planning evidence; typed and legible.
95	14 Apr 1978	Assessment Team report	Proposed residential placement	Placement planning	Recommends that Matthew remain at home if attendance improves, but recommends Bosco House if residential placement becomes necessary.	Shows professional assessment and funding/placement decision process immediately before St Ninian's referral.	Corroborative; typed, scan angled.
96	27 Apr 1978	Bosco House reply	Bosco House (not admitted)	Contradictory / alternative placement	Bosco House declines admission because it considered Matthew insufficiently delinquent and believed its provision unsuitable.	Important to distinguish proposed placement from actual placement.	Direct evidence; typed and legible.
99	17 Apr 1978	Assessment Team report	Proposed residential placement	Placement planning	Further assessment of need for residential care and recommendation regarding placement options.	Supports the decision-making process that preceded admission to St Ninian's.	Corroborative; typed and legible.
101	14 Dec 1978	St Ninian's headmaster letter	St Ninian's School	Home leave	Sets out Christmas holiday dates, transport arrangements and return times for boys.	Corroborates residence and temporary leave arrangements.	Institutional corroboration; typed and legible.
103	6 Oct 1981 report	Social background report	Children's Hearing / supervision	Legal status / impact	Reviews residential supervision history, family circumstances, education and current situation.	Useful summary of care and supervision history.	Corroborative; typed, reduced scan.
105	4 Nov 1980 report	Social background report	Children's Hearing / supervision	Legal status / impact	Prepared for Children's Hearing review and summarises current circumstances, behaviour and supervision needs.	Supports continuation and review of supervision.	Corroborative; typed, reduced scan.
106	13 Dec 1979 report	Social background report	St Ninian's / Children's Hearing	Placement / legal status	Discusses Matthew's residence at St Ninian's, home leave, progress and the need for continued supervision.	Strong contextual evidence of continuing placement and review.	Corroborative; typed, reduced scan.
107	c. 1980 report	Social background report	Family / social work	Identity / family context	Confirms identity and family composition and summarises long-standing social-work involvement.	Supports background chronology and identity.	Corroborative; typed, reduced scan.
108	continuation	Social background report	Family / social work	Impact / assessment	Describes poor self-esteem, school difficulties, family pressures and supervision considerations.	Impact evidence; not direct evidence of abuse.	Corroborative; typed, reduced scan.

Abuse-category findings

Direct physical abuse	No clear contemporaneous allegation was identified in this file of Matthew being physically assaulted by staff or residents at St Ninian's. References to violence, offending or conflict must be checked carefully because many concern family or community events rather than the institution.
Direct sexual abuse	No clear contemporaneous allegation of sexual abuse at St Ninian's was identified in the reviewed pages.
Emotional or psychological abuse	The records contain evidence of anxiety, poor self-image, withdrawal, family instability, behavioural difficulties and concern about being misrepresented. These are impact/context records and do not, without more, prove abusive treatment by institutional staff.
Neglect	The file records educational delay, truancy and limited stimulation in the family environment before placement. It does not clearly establish institutional neglect at St Ninian's.
Contemporaneous disclosures or complaints	Page 77 records concerns and dissatisfaction relating to St Ninian's, but the wording visible does not amount to a clear disclosure of physical or sexual abuse.
Institutional knowledge / failure to act	No clear record was identified of prior complaints against St Ninian's staff, staff discipline, police investigation of staff, regulatory concern or management failure to act.
Mental-health and psychological impact	Poor self-image, anxiety, social withdrawal, behavioural difficulties and family-related distress are recorded across pages 41-45, 53-59, 66-68, 77 and 84-85.
Substance use	Alcohol-related concerns appear in pages 56-59 and 77. The records do not expressly link alcohol use to abuse or trauma.
Education and life impact	Pages 47-52, 55, 84-85 and related reports record chronic truancy, remedial education, literacy problems, poor attainment, behavioural difficulties and later improvement.
Contradictory / positive evidence	Pages 43-45, 84-85, 88 and 103-108 contain positive or neutral descriptions, including settling, progress, respectful behaviour and supportive structure. These should be addressed, not omitted. The apparent admission-date discrepancy between pages 46, 83, 88 and 91 also requires explanation.

Review note

This extraction is based on the visible scanned material. Some pages are faint, reduced, partly handwritten or redacted. Exact quotations and dates should be checked against the original scan before filing or submission.