

Looking After Children in Scotland: Good Parenting, Good Outcomes

REVIEW OF THE CARE PLAN

PART 2

Carers'/Key Worker's Report

Name of child/young person

Jordan McCourt

Current Placement Address

Mossedge North Unit
Kibble Education and Care Centre
1 Goudie Street

Paisley PA3 2LG

Date of Review

Day Month Year

- 1. Please describe what has happened in the child/young person's placement since the last Review.** (If this is the first Review, describe what has happened since the child or young person started to be looked after away from home.) Make sure you describe positive developments as well as any problems. Always record something under each heading.

i) Has there been a change of placement? If yes, describe the circumstances and the effects on the child/young person?

On the 4th of August 2005 Jordan was admitted to Kibble Education and Care Centre. He is looked after and accommodated within Mossedge North Unit, which is nine-bedded unit which looks after young adolescents aged between twelve and sixteen. Prior to this placement Jordan was placed looked after at Airth Drive Children's Unit. It was assessed that this placement was no longer meeting Jordan's requirements as his educational needs were not being met. This was partly due to Jordan being suspended from mainstream school and his habitual truanting. Since being admitted to Mossedge North Unit Jordan has settled well into his new environment. Undoubtedly, his progress is more marked within the educational setting as he has excelled in this area of his life. Indeed, he has scored consistently high within the educational reward scheme in school. Progress within Mossedge Unit has not been as rapid, however in comparison with his previous documented behaviours Jordan has settled well and is making good progress in his overall placement.

ii) Have there been any significant changes within the current placement, which have affected the child/young person eg someone arriving or leaving?

Since his admission there have been no changes to his peer group within Mossedge North Unit. The group remains settled and consistent. With regards the staff group a new member of staff commenced working within the unit in September 2005. Jordan has developed a positive and sustainable relationship with this worker. Undoubtedly the catalyst for their blossoming relationship is their shared interest in football. Jordan looks forward to this person being on duty so they can actively participate in his favourite past time.

iii) What are the child/young person's relationships like with adults and other children/young people in the placement?

Jordan is a young person with an endearing and engaging personality. He has positive working relationships with residential child care staff and education staff. In terms of his relationships with his peers in the unit this is still in the formative phase. Being the youngest of the group and at times displaying extremely demanding and attention seeking behaviours does not always win favour with his peers. This can often lead to conflict with the group, which requires staff intervention to de-escalate. The catalyst for these conflicts often being his propensity to attempt to commandeer the pool table, television remote control and the unit computer. His relationship with one of his peers is particularly poor. This could be possibly attributed to the fact that this young person was the youngest of the group prior to Jordan's admission and they are both jostling for position within their peer group.

iv) Does the child/young person understand and accept the rules and guidance provided by staff/carers? Has s/he been subject to any sanctions? If so, what, how often and with what result?

Jordan has a clear understanding of the limits, boundaries and systems in place within both the residential and educational settings. He will attempt to manipulate these on a daily basis, however due to the consistent approach adopted by all staff these incidences are becoming less frequent and volatile in nature. When he has chosen not to respond positively to staff direction, prompting and guidance, the use of sanctions has been necessary. These have taken the form of reflective beds (earlier than normal bedtime being implemented), withdrawal from participation on certain activities or monetary fines due to being caught smoking. On a positive note however, the implementation of sanctions has become less frequent due to him becoming more accepting of the necessary limits, boundaries and expectations that are in place within his placement setting.

v) How does the child/young person spend his/her leisure time? Are there activities s/he would like to be able to do which s/he is not doing?

Jordan is an extremely active young person who is always eager to participate in whatever recreational activities are available. Up until now he has been involved in two unit holidays to Kinlochranoch and Millport. He also enjoys swimming, ice skating and utilising the school's newly opened skate park. Undoubtedly, his favourite pastime is football and he excels in this particular area. So much so, that he has become an integral and invaluable member of the school football team. This is an area that he should be coached, nurtured and supported in. To harness and promote this talent his keyworker secured a place within a local community boy's football team. Jordan has since signed up with them and plays for them on a regular basis. Undoubtedly, this has been significant in building and promoting his self-esteem and self worth. Jordan has also recently expressed an interest in playing rugby and this is also currently being looked at as a recreational option for him.

vi) Are there any concerns about the child/young person's safety either because of his/her own or other people's actions? If yes, describe what will be done to protect him or her?

Undoubtedly, Jordan does not endear himself to his peers and often brings unwanted negative attention upon himself. This can result in verbal altercations with his peers, which often results in an exchange of verbal threats. Staff are aware of these behaviours and interactions and constantly monitor these and de-escalate these incidents appropriately. Jordan is constantly reminded that he is part of a shared group living experience and that he must be tolerant and respectful towards his peers. Likewise, his peers are reminded of his age and that in the past, they were once also a new young member of the group. This aside, there are no concerns in terms of his safety within his placement.

vii) Does the child/young person feel safe in the placement? If not, describe why, and outline what is being done to help him or her feel safer.

Jordan has commented to his keyworker that he does feel safe within his placement. He has shown no visible signs of anxiety or distress that would suggest otherwise.

viii) Is the placement appropriate for the child/young person? Is the placement stable, fragile or approaching breakdown? Is a move needed for other reasons, eg a time limited placement? If the placement might need to end, what alternative(s) has/have been considered and what needs to be done to achieve it?

Jordan's placement within Mossedge North Unit is appropriate to meet his current needs. His placement is assessed as being extremely stable at this time. Having

recently only turned thirteen and therefore possibly requiring to be looked after out with the family home for a number of years, his long term future and needs require to be assessed to ensure that he is placed in the most appropriate resource/setting to meet his needs.

2. Please describe the child/young person's development since the last Review. (If this is the first Review, describe what has happened since the child or young person started to be looked after away from home.) Make sure you describe positive developments as well as any problems. Always record something under each heading.

i) How is the child/young person's health? Has the child/young person had or refused any health assessments or treatment? If the child/young person is disabled, are there any specific needs or issues arising for him/her or you as carer(s)?

Prior to being admitted to Kibble Education and Care Centre Jordan was diagnosed as having Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (A.D.H.D). Jordan has been prescribed Ritalin in the form of three 15mgs tablets, which are administered to him at four hourly periods commencing at 8.00am each day. As part of the admission process Jordan underwent an admission medical on 13th September 2005. As a consequence of this medical examination a couple of health issues came to light, namely:

- Jordan was suffering from severe ingrown toenails in both his feet
- Jordan had a number of warts on both his hands

As a result of these medical issues Jordan has been referred to the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley for specialist treatment. We are still currently awaiting the outcome of these referrals.

Jordan also underwent a full dental assessment on the 6th September 2005. The result being that he required a couple of fillings and his teeth required a scale and polish. This treatment is currently ongoing. It is worth noting that the dentist has assessed that it may be necessary to fit a brace in the future. This situation will be closely monitored by his keyworker.

On the 18th August 2005 Jordan underwent a full eye examination. Jordan was assessed as having good eyesight with no requirement for glasses at this time.

Jordan has also been registered at the local General Practitioner's at Love Street Medical Centre, Paisley.

There are no concerns with his eating or diet and he appears to enjoy what could be described as a normal sleeping pattern.

Apart from these findings at his initial admission medicals, Jordan appears to be a fit and healthy young person. He has not suffered any illnesses since his arrival at Mossedge North Unit.

ii) How is the child/young person progressing in pre-school provision / school / training / college / work? Are there barriers to him/her achieving his/her potential? If so, describe them. Does the child/young person have an education plan? If so, has it been reviewed or does it need to be reviewed?

Jordan has made a positive transition in term of settling well within his educational curriculum. Undoubtedly, up until now, this is an area in which he has excelled. He has received many plaudits from both education and residential care staff for his attitude, motivation and application towards his studies. Since commencement of the academic year Jordan has managed to sustain a consistent place within the top ten achievers in terms of the educational points system. Indeed, in the first week of September Jordan managed to attain maximum points and was the top achiever in the entire school!

Jordan as stated previously has become both an integral and invaluable member of the school football team. Unit staff have never received any negative feedback from Physical Education staff with regards his behaviour and attitude within this setting. Overall, Jordan appears to fairly disciplined in the classroom setting and has displayed both the aptitude and motivation to fulfil all the tasks that are asked of him. As a result of his overall positive demeanour within the educational setting, he has only been subject to educational payback on one occasion (practice of having a young person return to class in their own time to fulfil designated tasks/complete work they have failed to do so within the normal classroom period). Likewise, he has only been allocated additional homework on one occasion. These minor blips occurred on the 11th October and have been attributed to the fact that Jordan was informed by his keytutor that he would be transferring from intensive support to a mainstream class after the October break.

Within the education department, each young person is assigned a key tutor. The keytutor and keyworker system operates in tandem to monitor and evaluate the young person's progress, or otherwise and seeks to promote two-way communication between the residential and educational settings. Jordan's keytutor is Stephanie Pollock. A copy of Jordan's Individualised Educational Programme (I.E.P) will be available at his Looked After Review for those in attendance.

iii) What sense does the child/young person have of his/her identity, eg concerning gender, disability, sexuality, religion, culture, ethnicity, language, self-worth, knowledge and understanding of own or family circumstances? What is being done to support the child/young person to achieve a positive sense of identity?

Jordan identifies well with Scottish culture and traditions. He has not expressed a wish to actively practice religion. Likewise, he has not openly discussed his sexuality. In terms of his own understanding of his family dynamics and his place within the family this is an area that requires further exploration with Jordan. He clearly struggles to comprehend why he is being looked after out with the family setting. His understanding of his place within the family unit leaves him somewhat confused and bewildered.

It is hoped that as his placement progresses this is an area where he will become more comfortable discussing. Consequently, he may choose to share his thoughts and feelings about his life and where he sees himself in relation to his family and his future. Undoubtedly, Jordan derives great self-esteem and positive feelings of self worth via his sporting prowess. He responds positively to praise and affection with regards his personal achievements.

iv) With whom is contact taking place? Is it taking place as often as planned? What effect is it having on the child/young person? What contribution do the parent(s) or people with parental responsibilities make to the child/young person's day-to-day care?

Since his admission to Kibble Education and Care Centre on the 4th August 2005 Jordan has only enjoyed contact with his family on four occasions. Two of these were home visits were planned and facilitated by his keyworker and took place within the family home. In addition, Jordan's mother, Mary and her partner, Robert visited the unit after being invited by his keyworker. This enabled his mother to see where he was now living and have a look around the campus whilst being updated on the services on offer at Kibble. The final and most recent contact occurred on Sunday 16th October, that is, Jordan's thirteenth birthday. Arrangements were made for his mother to visit him within the unit and the social work department had provided taxis to facilitate transport to and from the school. Unfortunately, his mother did not manage to visit as planned as she stated the taxi did not turn up to transport her. Staff on duty within Mossedge North Unit on the day realised how important this contact was to Jordan and phoned his mother to arrange to collect her from the family home and transport her to Kibble to see Jordan. Unfortunately, this arrangement was not suitable for his mother; therefore staff were redeployed within Kibble to facilitate staff taking him home to see his family on his birthday. This avoided Jordan being let down and alleviated the anxieties and stresses which were around for him in relation to this contact taking place or not.

All access visits have been supervised by staff from Kibble and the social work department has been fully updated with regards there outcomes.

Jordan is actively encouraged to maintain family contact by phone, but very rarely phones his family. However since the introduction of a points system within the unit, which was set up for Jordan by his key worker, he has now made contact on at least four occasions by telephone.

Undoubtedly, the lack of contact and apparent lack of motivation to pursue contact between Jordan and his family is having a detrimental affect on his emotional well-being and development. He regularly asks when he can have access or see his family. This is particularly evident at the end of the school week when other young people are going out on leave. Staff have observed a noticeable change in his demeanour and mood when he realises he maybe the only young person who is around over the weekend period or at holiday periods.

Undoubtedly, how regular positive contact with his family is facilitated has to be discussed at this Looked After Review. Contact that is structured, safe and regular would have a positive impact on his mental well-being and allow him to find his place within his family unit.

If regular access or contact is assessed as being inappropriate for the time being, alternatives will have to be considered, namely, respite care, input from befriending services or securing additional input from Kibble. Such input would help Jordan to overcome the feelings of rejection and loneliness that he currently has.

Jordan's mother phones the unit on a weekly basis to speak with Jordan; however he is very often not available as he is out participating on activities.

Jim Seymour (keyworker) has weekly contact with his mother and the social work department and keeps both updated on Jordan's progress within the unit and the education department.

v) How does the child/young person relate with members of his/her family? Have there been any changes in these relationships or of family membership? How have these affected the child/young person?

Jordan appears to have relatively good relationships with all members of his family; however appears to have a particular close bond with his elder brother Kyle. Family relationships overall appear positive; however interactions between his mother, her partner and Jordan have been observed and could be described as limited. Interactions between Jordan and his siblings have been observed as positive with all his siblings looking pleased to see him.

vi) How does the child/young person present him/herself in social situations? What impression does s/he make on other people?

Jordan can on occasions seek attention when in social settings and will become loud and show off. These behaviours can create the impression that he is both disrespectful and cheeky. Undoubtedly, his behaviour is more appropriate and positive in smaller group settings or on a one to one basis. He often feels the need to play to the crowd. He does have the ability to present positively and can be well mannered.

vii) Describe the child/young person's behaviour. How is s/he developing emotionally? Have there been changes? If so, give details and possible reasons why you think this happened.

Jordan's emotional development would appear normal for his age. Within the unit he does not present as a management problem, although his behaviour at times can be loud, erratic, volatile and explosive. In comparison with previous documented behavioural traits it would appear that these outbursts are becoming less frequent and more manageable. This positive development can be attributed to his growing maturity, and

his developing skill in the area of consequential thinking. Undoubtedly, the consistent limits, boundaries and routines in place within Mossedge North have had a positive impact on his behaviour(s).

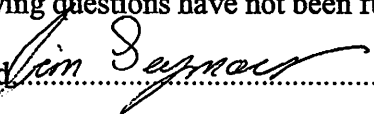
viii) What self-care skills does the child/young person have? Are there any barriers to the child/young person achieving appropriate self-care skills? If so, describe them.

Jordan's self care skills are of a good standard for a young person of his age. His personal appearance is normally of a high standard and he showers on a daily basis without the need for staff prompting. He does require staff prompting and direction to clean his teeth on a daily basis. He has the ability to keep his personal living space to a high standard. With regards preparing meals he is now skilled enough to prepare himself light snacks and his own supper.

- 3.** Please describe the child/young person's and his/her family's relationship with the social worker since the last Review. (If this is the first Review, describe what has happened since the child or young person started to be looked after away from home.) If there has been a change of social worker, what effect has this had on the child/young person, his/her family and you as carer(s)? Make sure you record positive developments as well as any problems.

Jordan and his family would appear to have difficulty in engaging with the social work department. It would be fair to say that this may be a resistance to any social work involvement in their lives. Jordan's social worker has visited him on two occasions since his arrival at Kibble. Jordan's social worker gave positive feed back after one of his visits to see Jordan and commented, "*that it was the best interactions he had ever encountered with Jordan.*" Attempts at weekly contact offering regular updates between Mossedge North staff and the social work department are made. These attempts are not always successful. Discussions with regards identifying the most appropriate time of the working week to contact each other are required. This will ensure that interagency collaboration and communication is maximised, therefore ensuring that all individuals currently involved in Jordan's Care Plan are fully updated and informed. Such arrangements will enable contact and discussion to occur on a regular basis.

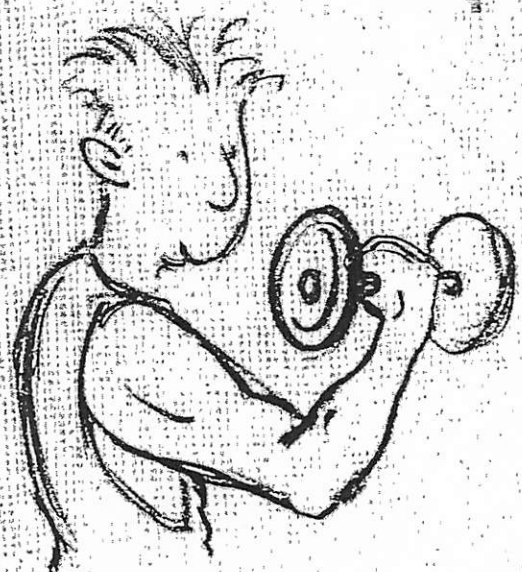
I have checked this report for accuracy and completeness. [If applicable] The following questions have not been fully completed because: -

Signed 

Name: Jim Seymour

Date: 19th October 2005

Designation: Residential Keyworker (Mossedge North Unit)



Having Your Say



At Your Review Young Person's Report

Name JORDAN McCOURTAge 13Date of Birth 16/10/92Date of Review 24/10/05

A Review is where changes can be made to your Care Plan. It's important that you give your views. Use this form to help you decide what you want to say. Ask an adult to help you fill it in if you want. Try and tick a box for each question and write any comments you wish to make.

How do you like living where you are now? Like it ☐ It's OK ☒Don't like it ☐ Do you want to say why you ticked this box?

1

2

How do you get on with the people you live with?

Very well ☐ OK ☒ Not very well ☐

Do you want to say why you ticked this box?

3

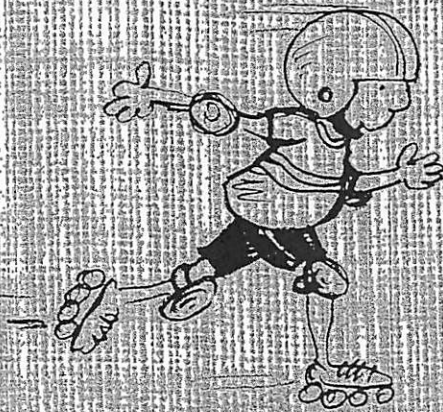
Is there anything else you would like to say about where you live – for instance about the food, pocket money, or the rules and what happens if you break them?

4

Are there times when you don't feel safe or are bullied either where you live or somewhere else?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, what happens and where?



6

If you are moving soon, are you getting the help and preparation you need?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Do you want to say why you ticked this box?

5

I see my social worker:-

Too much ☐ About right ☐

Not enough ☒

Do you want to say why you ticked this box?

7

Are you happy with the contact you have with your family and friends?

Yes ☐ No ☒

Do you want to say why you ticked this box?

Is there anyone you'd like to see more or less often? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, who and how often?

8

Are you at: School ☒ College ☐

Work ☐ Training ☐ Other ☐

What's it like? Is there anything you need help with?



9

What interests and sports do you take part in?

Football Hockey

Tennis Skating
Swimming Danc

Are there any others you'd like to try?

rugby

10

Do you know why you are being looked after away from home?

Yes ☐ No ☒

Has anyone talked to you about what was decided at your last review?

Yes ☐ No ☒

This is my first review ☒

11

Do you know how to contact your Who Cares? worker or your Children's Rights Officer?

Yes ☐ No ☒

12 What decisions would you like made at your Review?

See more
mum

13 If you could change anything about your care, what would it be?

14 Please use this space to say anything else you want the Review to know. You might want to ask some questions or draw a picture. Add another piece of paper if you haven't got enough room.

Tick here if you've added another piece of paper. ☐

Signature: 

Date:

Remember your **Who Cares?** worker or **Children's Rights Officer**, or someone else you trust can come with you to your Review to help you Have Your Say.