

# Harkness Gardens



A national charity since 1911



## Who we are

Harkness Gardens is a specialist residential care home, without nursing, in Derry/Londonderry, Northern Ireland. We can provide support to six deaf and/or deafblind men and women over the age of 18. The people we support have a range of diverse and sometimes complex needs, such as learning and physical disabilities, mental health problems, and dementia.

Everyone who lives at Harkness Gardens has the opportunity to live the life they want to live, with a support package designed around their individual needs. In particular, we focus on giving people the support and skills they need to live as independently as possible.

We use a range of appropriate communication techniques, always take a person-centred approach and encourage positive risk-taking in all aspects of our care planning and review process.

We seek to understand what people are trying to communicate through their behaviour and find ways to support people to express themselves constructively.

## How we can support you

We can give you a safe and comfortable place to live. Our home has six bedrooms, each with its own washbasin, and several shared, accessible bath and/or shower rooms. We have a kitchen, a large, bright lounge with flatscreen TV and Freeview, and a separate dining-room. There is a conservatory overlooking our large garden - and this has a patio and seating area where people like to relax and eat when it's warm enough!

We can offer you a home for as long as you need - whether that's a home for life or just a short-time. You may want to develop the skills you need to help you live more independently in the future and we can support you with this including helping you to find a place to live when the time is right. But if you don't feel able to live on your own right now, that's fine too - we can focus on making sure you have the skills to be as independent as you want to be, and help you get really involved in your local community and other activities.

Our staff team will encourage and support you in all aspects of everyday life - from making healthy lifestyle choices and managing your medication, to cooking, budgeting, learning new skills and getting out and about.

Care and Support

Live life your way - we're here for you

We will communicate with you in the way that suits you best including both British and Irish sign language. We will also support you to create your own person-centred plan. This describes what's important to you, how you want your life to be, and what help you need to make this happen.

## What's important to us

- Providing a person-centred service that focuses on what the people we support want and like
- Giving people choices about how they are supported and who supports them
- Using our skills to support people to achieve the things they want to in life
- Making sure the people we support are happy, safe and healthy
- Involving people in how their home is run
- Working as a team, and in partnership with the people we support, their families and other professionals.

## What people say about us

“Good welcoming approach by staff, making for a therapeutic yet homely atmosphere. I would be happy to refer people to this service.”

### - Visiting professional

“A big thank you to all staff for their work with our son and all the support they give him. We appreciate all that is done to make his life interesting and enjoyable and the life skills that he has learned. Many people have remarked how much he has matured and become his own person.”

### - Mother of a person we support

## Where we are

Harkness Gardens opened in 1996. It is situated in a quiet cul-de-sac close to local amenities and transport links. Derry/Londonderry is a busy, thriving city with lots of leisure activities and opportunities – there is always lots going on! As one of the only services of its kind in the region, people come to us from across Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic. We also welcome referrals from England, Scotland and Wales.

## Contact us

**Please contact our Referrals Co-ordinator if you want:**

- more information about the service
- to make a referral
- to arrange a visit
- to have a chat about how we can support you.

  **0333 240 5659**

 [referrals@hearingloss.org.uk](mailto:referrals@hearingloss.org.uk)

 [actiononhearingloss.org.uk/careandsupport](http://actiononhearingloss.org.uk/careandsupport)

Address: 1-2 Harkness Gardens, Brigade, Londonderry BT47 6GG

