

The Percy Hedley Foundation

Positive Behaviour Support Statement

Children, Young People and Adults have the right to support and services that create capable environments. These should be developed on the principles of Positive Behavioural Support (PBS) and other evidence-based approaches. They should also draw from additional specialist input as needed to respond to all the needs of the individual.

The Percy Hedley Foundation use a range of support in our schools, college, adult and residential services. One of these is Positive Behaviour Support (PBS). PBS is a widely used and person-centred approach to identifying and meeting a person's support needs, if someone is communicating their distress through potentially concerning or harmful behaviour and actions towards themselves or other. PBS is most commonly used to support people with learning disabilities, some of whom may also be autistic. Practitioners should follow the PBS Framework, which sets out how to deliver good quality support.

It is based on working with the individual and their support network to understand why someone is distressed, the impact their environment has on them and the best ways to keep them safe and happy. For instance, if someone becomes distressed during unstructured times, the professional would work with them to develop a personalised schedule of activities, helping them to choose how to spend their time. This would reduce anxiety created by unstructured time.

Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) provides a framework that seeks to understand the context and meaning of behaviour in order to inform the development of supportive environments and skills that can enhance an individual's quality of life.

It is based on a broad and holistic assessment and does not subscribe to or adopt a single therapeutic approach or treatment but seeks to develop a meaningful understanding of behaviours that challenge and improve the quality of a person and those around them.

PBS is values-based and does not use punishment or aversive approaches. As with any intervention, PBS requires commitment and time to promote a positive behaviour change.

The overall aim of Positive Behaviour Support is to improve the quality of a person's life and that of the people around them. This includes children, young people adults as well as older people. PBS provides the right support for a person, their family and friends to help people lead a meaningful life and learn new skills without unnecessary restrictions. It is not simply about getting rid of problematic behaviour.

In PHF, we celebrate neurodiversity and everyone as an individual. We believe in ensuring the environment and resources should meet a persons needs to support their wellbeing and quality of life.

Support and any interventions should always be person centred, focusing on the individuals strengths, interests and personal preferences. Any support given should always follow our own quality assurance processes and external guidelines including NICE guidelines. The Percy Hedley Foundation do not support or condone the use of practice outside of these guidelines.