

Somerset House Registered Residential Home for the Elderly Information Sheet

Contact details

Somerset House
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Yatton
North Somerset
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1. Aims and objectives

- 1.1 Somerset House will provide comfortable sheltered accommodation for the elderly.
- 1.2 The number of residents to be accommodated will be a maximum of 26 in single rooms.
- 1.3 The residents will be able to lead a full and active life, pursuing their own interests and hobbies according to their own abilities whether within the home or out in the community
- 1.4 Daily living functions i.e. cooking, laundry, cleaning and bathing will be provided by the home.
- 1.5 The residents will receive primary health care services from the local general practitioners.

2. Description of the home

- 2.1 Somerset house is situated on the village high street enclosed by high stone walls and set in 0.6 acres. A private drive extends to the rear of the house where there is parking space for visitors' cars. The laundry room is situated in a small outbuilding.
- 2.2 The house dates back to 1810 and reflects its original farmhouse character of the Georgian Period. The house was extended to the rear about 60 years ago and again in 1988 to provide additional bedrooms and two lounges. In 1992 the original Coach House was converted into 'The Lodge', comprising four single bedrooms,

one shower room, one bathroom and a lounge with a kitchen unit, giving residents a little more independence. All services are connected to the main house.

- 2.3 The house has three floors plus a large cellar. The ground floor comprises of kitchen, three lounges, dining room and conservatory. Leading to the rear of the house are one bathroom / toilet, shower room / toilet, three separate toilets, and 15 Bedrooms. The staircase leading to the first floor landing is situated by the front door.
- 2.4 The first floor has seven single bedrooms a shower room / toilet, and a separate toilet. The landing is very wide and provides for easy access.
- 2.5 The office and the staff room are situated on the second floor.
- 2.6 There are two garden areas. The main garden is to the front and side of the house, which is laid to lawn with established trees such as magnolia and walnut. Extensive flower borders and beds provide colourful displays. The garden to the rear of the house comprises a large patio area with many ornamental flower tubs. Both gardens are easily accessible to residents with or without walking aids. There are garden seats and tables throughout the area.

3. Furnishings

- 3.1 Varied seat height lounge chairs are provided throughout the house.
- 3.2 All resident areas are carpeted.
- 3.3 Divan beds are used unless the resident wishes to provide his / her own single bed. Over-bed tables are provided as well as individual bedside lamps.
- 3.4 Wardrobes and drawer units are provided for individual use.
- 3.5 All bedrooms have a vanity unit with hot and cold water washing facilities.

4. Catering

- 4.1 The kitchen is well equipped with facilities for cooking large or small quantities. Equipment includes: double sink, hand wash

basin, dishwasher, fridge, food processor, microwave oven, large grill and a large gas cooker.

- 4.2 The menu is varied but remains simple home cooking which, from experience seems to be preferred by the elderly palate. Special diets are catered for i.e. diabetic.
- 4.3 Breakfast is served between 7.00-7.30am in Bedrooms and 8.15am in the dining room, according to individual choice. Lunch is served at 12 noon, in the dining room. Lunch is only served in bedrooms by special arrangement or due to illness. High tea is served at 5.15pm in the dining room. Tea and coffee is available at any time.
- 4.4 The elderly seldom have large appetites. It is therefore essential to monitor and maintain sound nutrition through a balanced diet. The residents are encouraged to participate in menu planning thus ensuring that they will eat and enjoy their meals to the full.

5. Physical care

- 5.1 All residents are registered with the local general practitioners in Yatton, Congresbury or Wrington.
- 5.2 Opticians visit the home by arrangement. All residents are asked when their eyes were last tested and arrangements are then made as necessary.
- 5.3 A dentist will visit by arrangement.
- 5.4 Where possible an escort may be provided for residents if they need to attend a hospital for an outpatient appointment. Where an escort is not available from the home family will need to make their own arrangements.
- 5.5 A physiotherapist visits once a week, private sessions can be booked with the physiotherapist.
- 5.6 An Activities Coordinator visits one afternoon a week.
- 5.7 Simple home nursing is provided in the event of illness. However, the GP is always consulted and the district nursing services are readily available to the home. Somerset House is not a nursing home. Yatton Family Practice holds a surgery at Somerset house every Thursday, in addition to emergency calls. In consultation with the doctor, the residents relatives, and the Registration Authority we will provide terminal care, if this is what the resident wishes.

6. Personal hygiene

- 6.1 All residents receive a supervised bath on demand but never less than, weekly, unless a strip wash is more appropriate due to disability.
- 6.2 Separate wash flannels are provided for face washing and body washing.
- 6.3 Personal clothing should be marked and separately laundered if soiled.

7. Activities and social

- 7.1 Residents are encouraged to participate in the general activities of the Home. It is recognised that mental and physical activity is essential for good health. If a resident wishes to help with small household chores they are able to do so. Residents are encouraged to assist with menu planning, all residents have the freedom of the garden, and various games, books and jigsaw puzzles are available. Television is provided in three lounges, radio and music in another, the remaining area is kept as a quiet room. Large print books and audio tapes are delivered from the local library, periodicals and newspapers can be delivered on request.
- 7.2 A hairdresser visits weekly.
- 7.3 Residents are encouraged to go out, either alone, with their key-worker, or family and friends.
- 7.4 Visitors are welcome at all times. Due to fire regulations, we are obliged to ask all visitors to sign themselves in and out of the building.
- 7.5 The Anglican clergy gives communion weekly.
- 7.6 Other religious denominations visit by arrangement, transport can be arranged for the local church service.
- 7.7 The Lions' minibus is available for outings every Monday during the summer.
- 7.8 Transport is provided throughout the year for residents wishing to attend village activities.
- 7.9 Christmas shopping trips, theatre and concert trips are arranged. Local organisations often plan events to which residents are invited or in-house entertainment arranged.

8. Medication

- 8.1 If the resident is capable of caring for and administering their own medication, then this is encouraged. All medicines must be kept secure, however, a locked cabinet is used to store medicines.

9. Safekeeping of valuables

- 9.1 Residents are responsible for the safekeeping of all monies and valuables retained in their possession.
- 9.2 All monies and valuables handed to the Manager will be recorded and safely stored.
- 9.3 Individual items are insured to the value of £500.00.

10. Administration and collection of fees

- 10.1 Fees will be set according to the individual's needs as assessed in consultation with the management, resident and relative.
- 10.2 The fees will cover full accommodation with meals and assistance with daily living.
- 10.3 Personal expenditure for newspapers / periodicals, hairdressing, toiletries etc., is not included in the fees and will be charged for if provided by the home.
- 10.4 Fees will be reviewed annually and will be adjusted according to the changes in the cost of care. More frequent adjustments to the fees will be made if the cost requirements of care for an individual changes significantly. Due notice will be given of fee adjustments.
- 10.5 Details of conditions of accommodation and the fees charged etc, will be detailed in an agreement between the resident and the management.

11. Staffing

- 11.1 Senior staff will be resident in the home at all times. The Manager will be in the home for 40 hours a week. Emergency cover from the senior staff will always be available.
- 11.2 The key-worker system is in operation, this ensures the individual needs of the resident are met.
- 11.3 All staff are aware of fire regulations and what to do in the event of fire, e.g., evacuation procedures etc.

- 11.4 Indemnity insurance against misappropriation by staff will be provided.
- 11.5 All staff are bound by the Health and Safety Executive Regulations.
- 11.6 There are never less than two qualified care assistants on duty, extra care assistants are on duty during the mornings to facilitate bathing, a full time cook, kitchen assistant and domestics complete the staff.
- 11.7 On admission, a care plan will be devised with the resident, relations and key-worker, a record will be kept in individual care plan files, to be constantly reviewed and updated according to the resident's needs.

12. Emergency call system and fire precaution system

- 12.1 The emergency call system is supplied by the Home. All residents' bedrooms have a push button system to bed head.
- 12.2 Lounges, toilets and bathrooms have an emergency bell push or pull cord.
- 12.3 Extension buzzer sounds on the first and second floor landings, in the extension and in the lodge.
- 12.4 The fire detectors and alarm are provided by the home.
- 12.5 Detectors, bell sounders and activators are situated in all rooms as agreed with the fire officer.
- 12.6 Fire bell tests are sounded weekly and recorded.
- 12.7 Extinguishers are located as agreed with the fire officer.
- 12.8 All fire notices are placed as agreed with the fire officer.
- 12.9 Staff are instructed in the use of both systems.
- 12.10 Residents are instructed in the fire alarm procedure if they detect a fire.