



# Earthsea House

For boys and girls aged 5-14

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[www.childhoodfirst.org.uk](http://www.childhoodfirst.org.uk)

Earthsea House is a residential therapeutic community with an on-site special school which has 15 years experience of providing specialist therapeutic care, education and treatment for a group of up to eight children aged 5-14. The home occupies a purpose-built house, with a particularly attractive interior, every part of which was designed with the needs of the children in mind. It is situated within the landscaped grounds of an old village school, based in a rural village north-west of Norwich.

Earthsea House provides therapeutic care, treatment and education, and specialises in the treatment of children who present severe emotional and behavioural problems, including sexualised behaviour, as a result of attachment difficulties usually rooted in early life trauma.

Through the use of our unique Integrated Systemic Therapy, which focuses on healing trauma and enabling

healthy attachments and relationships, children achieve exceptional outcomes in every aspect of their lives.

We have consistently been commended for the quality of our provision in statutory inspections. Our staff are highly trained to enable children to work through their experiences of past trauma in a safe and comfortable environment designed for group living and learning. We provide a strong group-based culture which helps children engage with their difficulties, and support one another in recovering and achieving their potential.

We aim to create a therapeutic environment in which we work with the children enabling them to live together, learn and heal. We place much emphasis on caring and thoughtful relationships, and creating a sense of belonging. As a result, we deliver exceptional outcomes for the children in our care, enabling them to move on to mainstream or less specialised placements, and to manage these next placements with less disruption and distress.

## **Education at Earthsea and Merrywood**

Earthsea short stay school offers the full National Curriculum, with small classes allowing individual attention for each child. The school was singled out for particular praise, at a recent Norfolk short stay school inspection.

Childhood First works closely with Norfolk County Council colleagues to ensure that the complex emotional and cognitive needs of all Earthsea House pupils are met within the short stay school, as within the children's homes.

## **Families & Networks**

Our ability to work closely to support families, the professional network, and the Local Authority, has led to a number of our children being able to live within their own or another family setting.

The strength of our relationship with the Local Authority has been identified by HM Government as a model of excellence in corporate parenting.