

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 February 2024 23:00
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: PLUS premises application

Hi [REDACTED]

I have worked at PLUS for the past 13 years as a support worker in groups, on 1:1 support and coordinating sessions. Which is a substantial amount of time and for great reasons. The ethos of the company line up with my own, 'disabilities are no barrier to fun' is PLUS' slogan/ethos and as a team we successfully facilitate a wide range of activities tailored to individuals needs and outcomes. How I see it is, we all need alterations in areas of life to thrive regardless of ability and this is a company that not only provides those vital adaptations for the individuals we support but also continues that support for the families and staff team. PLUS have given families many an ear to decompress and assisted in finding the right type of plan to fit their needs and have done mental health support plans and tailored adjustments for staff who need alterations to thrive at work and beyond and in this I see the ethos and care across board in this company.

I see PLUS as a place of safety, progress, fun and respite.
Safety, for the young people with staff having the vital training needed, many young people have medical needs that other groups/sessions outwith our organization cannot adequately support we help bridge that gap meaning they don't miss out.
Progress, as the sessions are tailored to the young people's outcomes and the level of care and consideration the staff take across board from management to sessional workers to assist in the development of young peoples skills and their physical/mental well being is beautiful to see. PLUS work with other organizations to provide consistency and the best for the young people who access the services.
FUN, as varying engaging activities are planned providing a platform for young people to develop social relationships amongst our groups that can often lack elsewhere due to lack of access/inclusion. Also the benefits and building of confidence I have witnessed from young people seeing disability representation from others who attend is amazing. The confidence built from reduced isolation and feeling integrated/included rather than 'other' is undoubtedly important and I am proud to be part of this.
Respite, for the parents/carers. I have witnessed countless times their exhaustion and relief knowing they have hours where they don't need to be as vigilant, where they can reset there own mind knowing their young person is able to have fun in a safe environment and they will be respected and cared for. But also respite for the individuals we support to get a change of stimulus and broaden their social network in a place that they are accepted for who they are.

During these 13 years with the company I have witnessed the move between a previous building in which there was no space to host sessions for the young people we support and was solely a base for an office and staff training to the current premises with the ending tenancy that has space for sessions for our young people. I've noticed that having a space that is PLUS rather than hosting in external venues that can often change provides young people with security and consistency that many benefit greatly from. It allows us to tailor each room in ways that would be most beneficial for the sessions such as a sensory room and being able to store and access more resources so we can offer a wider range of activities. It also provides a solid foundation where management and the sessional staff can work as a unit from to facilitate all these wonderful things previously stated. This building would be an exciting prospect to provide a continuity of this.

In all honesty to me and the impression I've gotten from many of the families I've worked with over the years is that the service offered by PLUS is invaluable. I've had the honour of being able to be part of it and I wish to see it continue, to grow, thrive and for the transition to a new premises to be as comfortable as possible for the young people we support and securing this building would help achieve this. Especially, as how accessible this particular building is it supports the ethos of 'disabilities are no barrier to fun'.

Kind regards and thankyou for taking the time to consider my opinion on this matter,

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[Redacted signature]