

John Cavanagh

Consolidated chronology of care - all supplied records

Overall finding: the records provide direct documentary evidence of three institutional care placements beginning on 13 September 1976: Calder House Assessment Centre, St Philip's School and Blackburn Community Home. The supplied records do not establish when the Blackburn placement ended.

Field	Consolidated evidence	Source
Client	John Cavanagh; date of birth recorded most consistently as 22 September 1963 .	Calder p.1; R p.4-5
Pre-care address	43 Heathcliff Avenue, Blantyre. One form spells the street "Heathcliffe".	Calder p.1; R p.1
Responsible authority	Hamilton.	Calder p.1
Legal basis	Calder register: "Section 40/7". Later correspondence: Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, section 44(1)(b).	Calder p.1; R p.4-5

Chronology

Date / age	Setting / event	Evidence and interpretation	Status	Record / PDF page
13 Sep 1976 Age 12	Calder House Assessment Centre, Blantyre	Taken/admitted into care. The register records home address, Roman Catholic religion, Hamilton as responsible authority and "Section 40/7". A later social-work reply independently confirms entry to Calder House on this date. The GP summary also carries an historic code "Arrested in police custody" dated 13 Sep 1976, but does not explain whether this was connected with admission.	Confirmed placement start. GP code is context only.	Calder p.1; R p.5; SAR Part 1 pp.3 and 180
30 Sep 1976 Age 13	Calder House	Admission/discharge register records discharge after a total of 17 days and the remark "Carried forward".	Recorded discharge. Meaning of "Carried forward" is unclear and the next transfer date is 14 days later.	Calder p.1
30 Sep-14 Oct 1976	Unresolved interval	No supplied record identifies John's location during this period. It may reflect an administrative continuation at Calder House, another temporary arrangement or a date discrepancy; the documents do not permit a firm conclusion.	Evidence gap - do not infer placement.	Comparison of Calder p.1 and R p.5
14 Oct 1976-8 Dec 1977 Age 13-14	St Philip's School, Airdrie	Social-work reply states that John transferred from Calder House to St Philip's School on 14 Oct 1976 and then transferred onward on 8 Dec 1977.	Confirmed residential-school placement. Approx. 13 months and 24 days.	R p.5
From 8 Dec 1977 Age 14	Blackburn Community Home	Transferred from St Philip's School to Blackburn Community Home. The 1978 reply states that the file was with Accrington Social Services and that no further information could be supplied.	Confirmed placement start. End date, discharge arrangements and full duration are not supplied.	R p.5
26 Apr-15 May 1978	Child Benefit / social-work correspondence	The enquiry says John had recently moved to Lancashire, records that he was under Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 s.44(1)(b), and asks for care and leave dates. The reply confirms the three-placement sequence above.	Retrospective corroboration. Does not establish a Blackburn discharge date.	R pp.4-5
18 Dec 1979-22 Jan 1980	Post-care / prison release context	Prison correspondence records proposed release on 22 Jan 1980, intended residence with his father at 18 Talbot Way, Blantyre, previous residence in Hull and sentencing at Beverley Crown Court.	Later-life context only. No record links this to care or abuse.	R pp.2-3
28 Mar 2025	GP online questionnaire	John answered "No" to "Were you in foster care at any point?" The established placements were institutional settings, not identified as foster placements.	Neutral/possibly inconsistent wording. It does not disprove residential care.	SAR Part 1 p.46

Placement summary

Care setting	Earliest confirmed date	Latest confirmed date / event	Duration supported by supplied records
Calder House Assessment Centre, Blantyre	13 Sep 1976	Recorded discharge 30 Sep 1976; later transfer recorded 14 Oct 1976	Register states 17 days; the following 14-day interval is unresolved.
St Philip's School, Airdrie	14 Oct 1976	Transferred onward 8 Dec 1977	Approx. 13 months and 24 days.
Blackburn Community Home	8 Dec 1977	No discharge/end date supplied	Start is confirmed; total duration cannot be calculated.

Important discrepancies and evidential limits

1. Calder date discrepancy. Calder's register gives a discharge date of 30 September 1976, whereas the later social-work reply gives a transfer to St Philip's on 14 October 1976. The 14-day interval remains unexplained.

2. Date of birth and address variants. The clearest records give DOB 22 September 1963 and "Heathcliff Avenue". Handwriting on R p.1 appears to read 27 September 1963 and spells the street "Heathcliffe". Both variants should be included in further record searches.

3. Blackburn end date absent. No discharge record, aftercare plan or onward transfer is present. The reference to Accrington Social Services identifies where the file was held, not the duration of the placement.

4. No care evidence in the healthcare attachments. The four SAR parts contain no named care-setting address, institutional registration, residential-staff attendance or healthcare correspondence confirming the three placements. Their historic police-custody code and 2025 foster-care answer have therefore been treated as contextual rather than primary placement evidence.

Source coverage

Source file	Pages reviewed	Contribution to chronology
Calder House Records - John Cavanagh.pdf	1	Direct register evidence of admission, recorded discharge, identity, home address, authority and statutory section.
R - Cavanagh, John.PDF	5	Direct transfer chronology, legal basis, file location and later post-care context.
SAR-J-Cavanagh...part1.pdf	326	Context only: historic police-custody code and later denial of foster care.
SAR-J-Cavanagh...part2.pdf	213	No independent care-placement entry identified.
SAR-J-Cavanagh...part3.pdf	190	No independent care-placement entry identified.
SAR-J-Cavanagh...part4.pdf	101	No independent care-placement entry identified.

Recommended records to obtain: the full Calder admission/discharge book and case file; St Philip's admission, discharge, education and medical records; Blackburn Community Home records; and the file transferred to Accrington Social Services. These may resolve the 30 September-14 October 1976 interval and establish the end of the Blackburn placement.

Scope note: all six substantive source PDFs supplied for John Cavanagh were considered. Highlighted copies, combined copies and earlier review reports were treated as duplicate representations of those source records and were not counted as additional evidence.