

Statement Addendum

Client Name: David Smith
Date of Birth: 06/03/1983
Care Setting: parkview school dundee
Dates: 1993
Persons Involved:

Full Statement

When I arrived here, I was extremely upset and scared. I had been taken from my parents with no explanation, and I was brought straight to this place where I was made to stay five days a week. I was deprived of my weekend visits, which made me feel isolated and abandoned. From the very beginning, I felt confused, frightened, and alone, with no understanding of why I had been taken or what was happening to me.

The staff would physically throw me into my bedroom and lock me in there for days at a time, leaving me completely secluded. Being locked away like that made me feel trapped and helpless, and it had a lasting effect on my mental health. I was prevented from making friends, and the staff would deliberately turn me and the other children against each other. Instead of creating a safe environment, they encouraged division and conflict, which made me feel even more unsafe and alone.

The staff would restrain me using extreme force. There were times when up to five adults would jump on me at once, standing on me and pinning me down. They would sit on me in ways that made it difficult to breathe, leaving me breathless and terrified. They would bend my arms and legs behind me, causing intense pain that would last for days afterwards. These incidents were not isolated—they happened repeatedly, and each time I felt like I was being deliberately hurt.

They would push me around and slap me across the head. They would dig their knees into the back of my neck and kick my knees. It felt like they were intentionally trying to cause me serious pain. I lived in constant fear of what they might do next. The physical abuse was severe, but the emotional impact was just as damaging.

There was a lot of fighting in this place, but the staff would often just sit and watch it happen. At times, they would even torment us and deliberately provoke situations to push us against each other. This created an environment where I never felt safe, and I was always on edge.

Food was always provided, and there was a kitchen, and we were made to clean up after dinner. They also provided us with clothes. However, despite these basic provisions, it was the physical and mental abuse that defined my experience there. The way the staff treated us was terrifying. They spoke to us like animals and kept us locked away for long periods of time, which made me feel dehumanised and worthless.

I never had any visitors, which made me feel completely forgotten. The only person who came to see me was my social worker. I was often stopped from taking part in activities with other children, which made me feel singled out and further isolated. This treatment had a very serious impact on my mental health.

As a child, I was already suffering from mental health issues, including anxiety and PTSD, but no one cared or listened to me. I would cry out for help, but I was ignored. No one showed any interest in what I was going through or how I was feeling. This made me feel invisible, like my voice did not matter.

The impact of what I experienced there has stayed with me into my adult life. I struggle to trust people and find it very difficult to build relationships. I often feel unable to control my emotions, and I have turned to drugs in an attempt to block out the pain and memories of what happened to me.

I am still affected by what I went through. I suffer from very severe PTSD and anxiety, and this continues to affect me every day. I become extremely frightened if anyone tries to put their hands on me, and I can react in ways that I cannot control. These reactions are directly linked to the abuse I experienced.

What happened to me in that place has had a deep and lasting impact on my mental health and my life. It has affected the way I see the world, the way I interact with others, and my ability to feel safe. Even now, I continue to suffer because of what I endured there as a child.