**F**orensic **I**ntensive **R**ecovery **S**upport **T**eam

Reaside Clinic

Birmingham Great Park

Rubery

Birmingham

B45 9BE

Tel: 0121 301 3139

3rd October 2018

**Strictly Confidential**

Dear ????

??? has asked if arrangements can be made for ???? to visit him at Reaside Clinic while he is an inpatient at this hospital. There are, however certain child visiting procedures which we have to go through before such a request is agreed.

It is important for the maintenance of normal healthy family relationships that children are able to have regular contact with parents and other significant relatives who are in hospital. Visiting a secure psychiatric hospital like Reaside Clinic can however be a stressful and unsettling experience for a child. The clinical team has to satisfy itself therefore that it is appropriate for a child to be visiting a specific patient, and that everything possible has been done to make the visit a pleasant and enjoyable experience for everyone involved. We want children to feel at ease when they come to the clinic.

In the first instance, we have to ask the person with parental responsibility for their consent to the child visiting. If you are prepared to agree to visits, I would be grateful if you could complete the enclosed form and return it to the Social Work Department at Reaside Clinic, as per the address above.

On receipt of your reply, the clinical team will consider it, together with other relevant information, before deciding whether to approve the visits or not. We will try to make a decision as quickly as possible. You will be advised of that decision.

In the great majority of cases we do not anticipate any problems in giving a quick decision, but in a few cases we may have to contact your local services department to ask them to carry out a formal assessment of what would be in the best interests of the child. In that case, we will write to you again and tell you why we are having to make that request.

Continued ….

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If you are not prepared to give your consent, and your child is under the age of 16, the proposed visits cannot be approved by the clinical team.

There are slightly different procedures to follow if the child is the subject of any contact orders under the Children Act 1989, or is subject to a care order to the local authority. Please advise me if either of these situations apply.

If you have any queries and want to discuss this further before responding, please do not hesitate to ring me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely