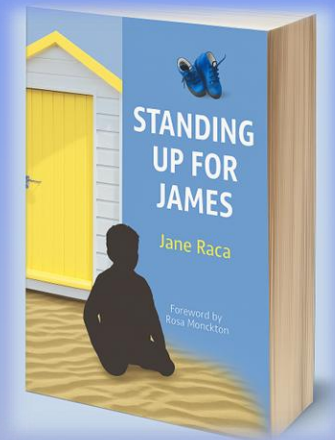


# A Home for James

Jane Raca MBE

Author 'Standing Up for James'

For 'Our Life Our Choice' 3 April 2025.



# My Focus: Campus settings for people with profound physical and complex disabilities.



- ❑ 50% increase in children in this group, in decade up to 2017. \*

\*<https://councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/about-us/media-centre/news-opinion/numbers-children-complex-needs-50-2004>

# What do I mean by 'Campus Setting?'

- Cluster of homes
- Café/meeting place
- Hydro/swimming pool
- Therapy team
- Trained staff



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# About James



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# Five reasons why Campus Settings work

1. Trained staff working across houses on site
2. Therapists directly employed
3. On- site facilities
4. Community on doorstep
5. Management & Continuity



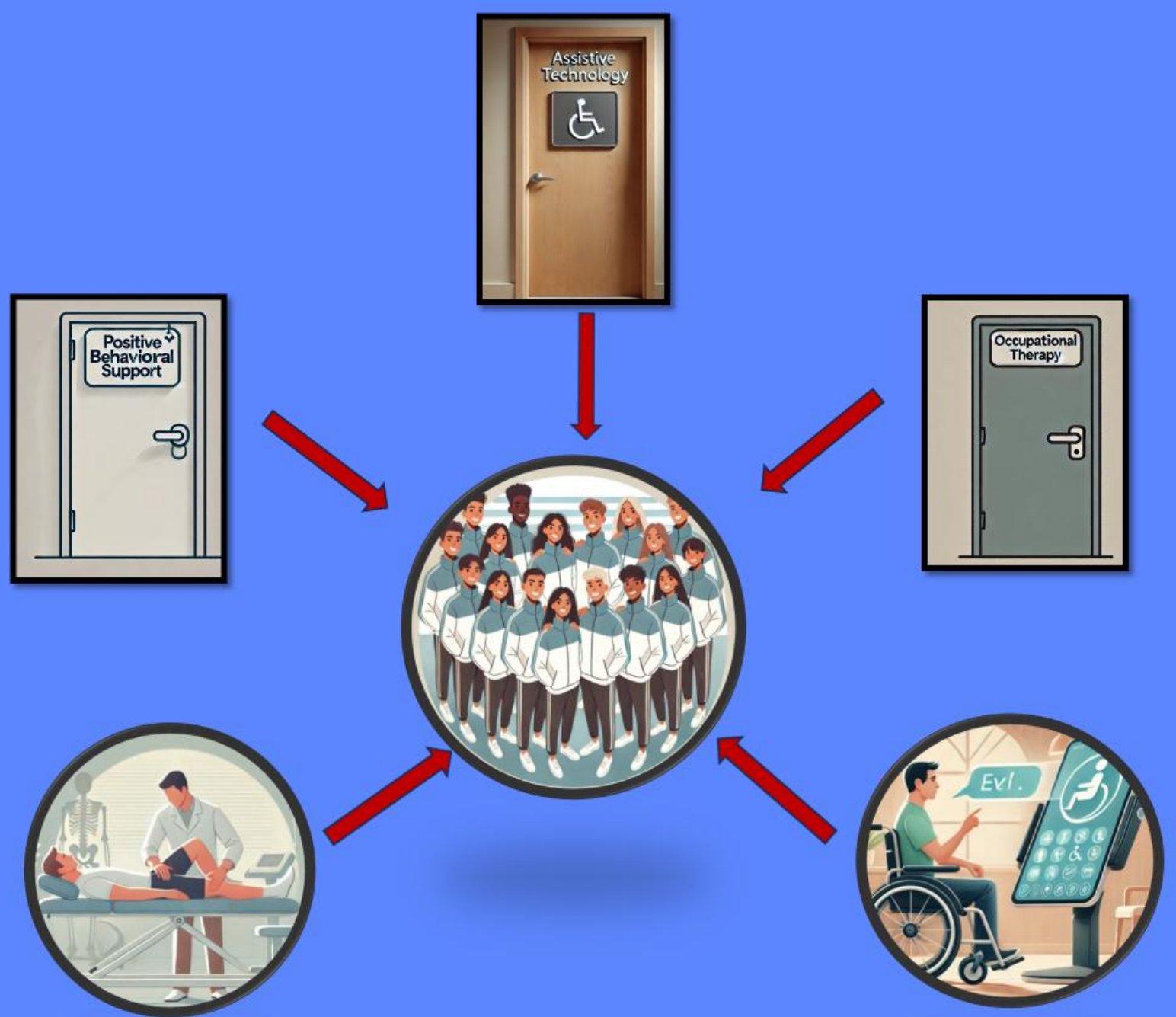
# 1. Staffing



- ❑ All care staff across houses receive therapy and behavioural training
- ❑ Staff can move between houses to ensure continuity during leave, sickness and turnover.

## 2. Therapy Team

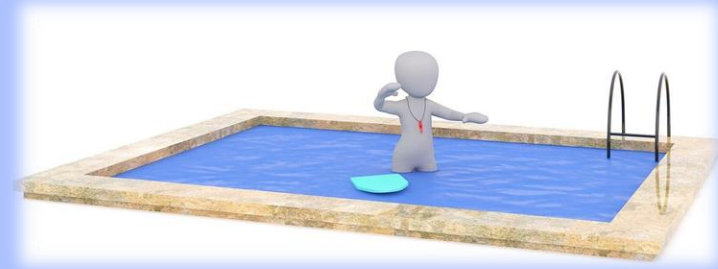
- Therapists,
- Behaviour support
- Assistive Technologists in  
Multi Disciplinary Team



# 3. Facilities



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# 4. Community



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# 5. Management and Continuity

- ❑ Management of all services, including therapy, by one on site team
- ❑ Motivation = service above profit
- ❑ Organisation there for the long haul
- ❑ Families won't always be here

# Conclusion

- High demand for campus settings which cannot be met
- CQC refusal to register new campus settings denies choice and essential services
- Disability discrimination
- NOT ACCEPTABLE.

# About Jane Raca



Jane Raca was a litigation partner in a national law firm before her life was turned upside down by the birth of her severely disabled son. James was born 15 weeks prematurely with brain damage and was subsequently diagnosed with cerebral palsy, autistic spectrum disorder, severe learning disabilities, challenging behaviour and epilepsy.

Jane was so shocked by the struggles she had to get him the right provision, that she felt compelled to write her first book, [Standing Up for James](#). The book was featured in [The Guardian](#) and [The Daily Mail](#) and was referred to in Parliament during the passage of the Children and Families Act 2014. Jane appeared on BBC Breakfast, ITV Lorraine, and LBC Radio and has since written for [The Guardian](#), [The Sunday Telegraph](#) and [The Huffington Post](#).

She has continued to campaign on disability issues and played a significant role in obtaining the right for SEND Tribunals to make recommendations on social care and health needs, not just educational ones. She has spoken at meetings in Parliament and has worked with several national disability charities. She was a Family Ambassador for Mencap for 8 years. She was awarded an MBE for services to disabled people and their families, in the Queen's birthday honours 2018.

Jane is now a Trustee and Chair Elect of [Hollybank Trust](#) in Yorkshire, which provides residential care, education and therapy for children and adults from across the UK. You can contact Jane via [Twitter](#), or [LinkedIn](#).