

# What does good PBS look like now?

# bild

# How to spot it

The below characteristics (building on PBS Alliance accessible graphic and the new UK PBS definition) are Purple-Orange-Blue rated to help inspectors and others identify how well PBS is implemented in practice.

#### **PURPLE**

This is not PBS and not good practice



#### **ORANGE**

Some elements of PBS, but room for improvement



#### **BLUE**

This is PBS and good practice



#### Co-designing



#### **NOT PBS**

- The supported person and/or family are not involved in assessment or support plans
- PBS is done to supported people not with them
- Decisions are made by 'professionals'.
  PBS is considered as an 'expert model'

#### **SOME PBS**

- Some limited input from family or key workers
- Very limited meaningful involvement with the supported person
- Decisions are made mainly by 'professionals'

#### **GOOD PBS**

- The supported person and/or family have control over the support plan
- All plans are co-produced
- Decision-making is shared with the supported person and/or family

### Quality of life



#### **NOT PBS**

- Focus is on the behaviour, not the supported person
- No concern about the supported person's quality of life
- A reduction in the number of incidents of behaviour of concern is the only desired intervention and outcome

#### **SOME PBS**

- Some consideration of the supported person's quality of life
- Limited attempts at improving quality of life
- A reduction in the number of incidents is the main intervention and outcome

- Improving quality of life is the main intervention and outcome
- A person-centric understanding of what matters to the supported person
- An improvement in quality of life is evidenced
- A reduction in the number of incidents of behaviour of concern is a side effect

## Rights and values



#### **NOT PBS**

- Use of crude, uninformed behaviourist approaches such as reward and punishment
- Restrictive practices used to manage behaviour are compromising human rights

#### **SOME PBS**

- Some well-intentioned discussions of values, though not translated into practice
- Restrictions and blanket rules are present

#### **GOOD PBS**

- Clear values that are translated into practice
- Diversity is celebrated
- The supported person is empowered to lead the life they choose and to be included in society
- Restrictions are regularly reviewed, and a plan is in place to reduce them

#### Communication



#### **NOT PBS**

- Belief that people "understand everything we say" and so we don't need to adapt our communication styles
- Reliance on verbal communication – people are considered 'non-compliant' when they don't understand
- Total or inclusive communication is not used (eg signs, gestures, photos, pictures)

#### **SOME PBS**

- Some visual communication is seen on the walls but is not routinely used in practice (eg a symbol timetable, a photo staff rota)
- Some adapted communication is used, but is not at an appropriate level for the person (eg using symbols and full sentences with a person who only understands objects and single words)
- Some communication tools are used to support choice making but only limited to some activities/times (eg for meal planning)

#### **GOOD PBS**

- Staff and other carers can describe the difficulties in understanding and communicating that supported people have and what they do to support this
- Total or inclusive communication is seen being used regularly and frequently (eg signing, pictures, photos, gestures, facial expression)
- Specific tools are used to support people's communication and choice making (eg photos, pictures, drawing, high tech aids and iPads) routinely in most situations

## Understanding behaviour



#### **NOT PBS**

- Behaviour is seen as deliberately challenging and 'dysfunctional' (labels such as 'violence' or 'malicious damage' are used)
- The supported person is blamed for behaving in ways that other people find difficult
- Behaviour is not understood as a way of communicating distress and other emotions
- No recognition of the impact of trauma, sensory issues and environment

#### **SOME PBS**

- There is some understanding that all behaviour has meaning
- No structured functional assessment; only uninformed ideas that behaviour is 'intentional' or 'attention-seeking'
- Limited understanding of the impact of trauma, sensory issues and environment

- Understanding that all behaviour has function and meaning
- Recognition that distressed behaviour results from a supported person's needs not being met
- A structured approach to functional assessment informs the support plan content
- Support includes understanding the impact of trauma on the person being supported and meeting their communication and sensory needs

# Capable environments





#### **NOT PBS**

- The supported person has to 'fit' the service provided
- Institutionalised 'one size fits all' approach
- No concern with changing the environment, or the support provided

#### **SOME PBS**

- Some limited improvements to physical environments
- Some key elements of capable environments not present
- Managers mainly administrate and don't spend much time in the setting

#### **GOOD PBS**

- Person-centred adaptations to the environment and support that fits the supported person's needs
- All twelve elements of capable environments are present
- Team-based practice leaders coach colleagues to get the support right for each person

#### Restrictions



#### **NOT PBS**

- A risk-averse 'control' culture
- Reliance on restrictive practices, including medication, to control behaviours of concern
- High levels of blanket restrictions that reduce opportunities for the supported person
- Institutional, lockeddoor culture
- PBS plans largely focus on reactive approaches
- Restrictions and restraint are not accurately recorded or monitored

#### **SOME PBS**

- Restrictions and blanket rules are present, though increasingly questioned
- Some attempts to balance restrictions and risk with rights and opportunities

#### **GOOD PBS**

- Person-centred
- Positive risk-taking
- A 'can do' attitude
- Low levels of restriction
- Staff challenge restrictive practices
- Data is used to inform decision-making
- PBS plans focus on preventative approaches, rather than reactive

#### Relationships



#### **NOT PBS**

- Relationships are not considered to be important
- No focus on developing rapport
- Staff 'do' things to the supported person
- High use of different, temporary staff
- Staff don't know the supported person well
- The supported person is seen as the problem

#### **SOME PBS**

- Some staff may have a good relationship with the supported person
- Rapport is not considered as something that should be further developed
- There are some attempts to maintain relationships with the supported person's family and friends

- Relationships are considered to be very important
- Staff know the supported person well and build positive relationships with them
- Relationships with the supported person's family and friends are actively supported

# Meaningful engagement



#### **NOT PBS**

- Institutional 'hotel model' culture
- Activities are limited and not person-centred
- The supported person is not given opportunities and support to participate

#### **SOME PBS**

- Staff only offer the most able people opportunities and support to participate in activities
- Supported people with behaviours of concern are left to their own devices
- Active Support is an occasional event, not a way of life

#### **GOOD PBS**

- An attitude of enabling, and positive risk-taking
- Staff understand the supported person and are ambitious in supporting them to achieve their aspirations and potential
- Staff are skilled in Active Support and use it regularly every day

#### Choices



#### **NOT PBS**

- Staff make the decisions
- No support for choice and decision-making by the supported person

#### **SOME PBS**

- Staff provide token choice in some situations
- The supported person has some, limited, control

#### **GOOD PBS**

- Choice and support for decision-making happens daily with staff
- The supported person can exert control over their own lives

# Skill development



#### **NOT PBS**

- The supported person is viewed as incapable of learning
- No attempts at skill development with the supported person
- Staff do everything for the supported person

#### **SOME PBS**

- There is some focus on maintaining skills
- No attempts at developing new skills
- Staff do almost everything for the supported person

#### **GOOD PBS**

- Staff enable the supported person to do things themselves, and become more independent
- The structured teaching of skills is ongoing

### Systems change



#### **NOT PBS**

- Systems are rigid and maintain the status quo
- Systems serve the needs of the staff and organisation, not the supported person
- Systems are complex and bureaucratic

#### **SOME PBS**

- Everyone is not clear about what the systems are and how they work
- Systems are difficult to follow, and mainly serve organisational needs
- Any system change is seen as too difficult

- Systems are in place to enable the supported person to have a good quality of life, and receive person-centred suport
- Systems are flexible
- Systems are reviewed and changed to meet the needs of supported people they serve



#### **NOT PBS**

- The plan:
  - o focusses on what to do when the supported person behaves in ways other people don't like or are dangerous. This is often only about restraint and restriction.
  - o uses a traffic light system to describe the supported person and what they do
  - o aims to change the supported person's behaviour to reduce 'problem' behaviour
  - o is written in complex medical or behavioural jargon
- The supported person and/or their family have not been involved in deciding what's in the plan

#### SOME PBS

• The plan:

- contains some proactive and preventative elements, eg what to do to help the supported person have a good life, but this is not the largest section
- describes some good things about the supported person
- o contains some strategies for making the environment better for the supported person
- is written in a more accessible style but contains some terms that could be considered discriminatory
- The supported person and/or their family have had some limited involvement in the plan

#### • The plan:

**GOOD PBS** 

- o focusses on how to meet the supported person's needs, so that they are not distressed. It helps them to have a good quality of life and develop new skills. This is the largest
- o is person centred and highlights the supported person's strengths, likes and wishes. It gives a really good picture of the supported person

section in the plan.

- o focusses on how the environment can be made as capable as possible so that the supported person is happy, healthy and included in their community
- o is written and presented in a way that most people can understand and is non-discriminatory
- The supported person and/or their family have co-designed the plan as equal partners and are involved in regular reviews