



Belinda Macleod shortlisted for the 2026 'Long Service' Award



Autism at Kingwood is an adult social care provider supporting around 100 autistic adults across Reading and Oxfordshire. At the heart of our mission is a simple but powerful aim: to help people live successfully in their own homes, access their communities, and enjoy a fulfilling life - whatever that might look like for them.

What truly sets Autism at Kingwood apart is our unwavering commitment to autistic people, delivered with professionalism, confidence, and deep compassion. Few embody this more fully than Belinda MacLeod, one of our most dedicated Support Managers.

Belinda has been a cornerstone of our Berkshire services for 12 years, having joined us in January 2014. Belinda is a tireless advocate for the autistic people she supports and for the teams she leads. She supports her staff to build meaningful, reliable, and professional relationships with the people they support. She understands that trust is the foundation of good support, helping people to feel safe, heard, respected, and empowered. Belinda guides her teams to support people in making their own decisions, fostering independence and confidence so they can move toward a life that is both meaningful and self-directed.

Her leadership style is grounded in empathy and clarity, and she models the values she expects from her team. Alongside the extensive mandatory and specialist training our staff undertake, Belinda provides regular, reflective supervision that her team deeply appreciates. Our Senior HR Officer notes: "Throughout her time with us, Belinda has been nothing short of a passionate and dedicated employee who deeply cares for her staff."

Belinda is also relentless in seeking opportunities that enrich the lives of the people she supports. She has identified clubs, activities, and community connections that have significantly improved their wellbeing and quality of life. Her commitment extends beyond day-to-day support; she has secured hard-to-find funding for individuals, such as arranging fencing for an autistic man distressed by a neighbour's dog. She even recruited volunteers to help install it, ensuring the solution was delivered quickly and sensitively.

Belinda's team holds her in the highest regard. "The care and thoughtfulness that Belinda has for her team shines through. It reflects the attitude she has for our clients—always wanting the best for them, so they can be the best version of themselves." Belinda is the kind of leader who quietly transforms the lives of the people she and her team support. Her dedication, compassion, and unwavering standards make her an exceptional Support Manager and an invaluable part of Autism at Kingwood.