

Colne place

Colne Place Care Home
97 High Street,
Earls Colne, Colchester,
Essex, CO6 2RB

Welcome



At the heart of the rural village of Earls Colne in Essex, Colne Place offers residential and respite care to elderly members of the community. The home has experienced, well-trained management and staff who are friendly and courteous. We know how to provide the highest standard of care, treating residents with dignity and respect.

Situated in a conservation area, the home occupies a beautiful, converted 19th century vicarage and has served the Four Colnes and Halstead area well for over 18 years. Residents can enjoy the calming, homely atmosphere of our communal spaces alongside the privacy and comfort of their own bedrooms. Individual care and the personal touch are important to us and people from all cultural, religious and ethnic backgrounds are welcome. From care plans to the daily menu, and from activities in the home to the décor, we listen to the wishes and requirements of all our residents.

Colne Place provides a safe and secure environment. Frail and elderly residents are given assistance and support wherever and whenever it is needed, and there is wheelchair access throughout the home. We are surrounded by beautiful gardens and mature trees, and are close to local amenities including shops, parks, pubs, the parish church and more. Our ongoing links with the schools, clubs and societies in Earls Colne help make the home special and the local community plays a big part in life at Colne Place.

We welcome visits from friends and family and encourage input in helping make decisions around the home, in addition to the individual care we provide. There are plenty of opportunities for participation in our extensive activities programme and to continue supporting and caring for loved ones while they are with us.









Accommodation, care and facilities

Colne Place residents each have a spacious single room with a wash basin. 20 of the rooms also have an en suite toilet. The home is in one of the village's listed historical buildings, and although it has been updated to meet the needs of a modern care home, it retains many of its original features and unique charm. Our residents are supported by our fully-trained care team consisting of senior carers and care assistants. We also take bookings for respite care, looking after elderly people for short periods as and when required. All our residents can call for assistance at any time, day or night.

We offer 2 lounges, 3 quiet areas and 2 dining rooms. The main lounge has fantastic view overlooking our huge, well-kept gardens. When the weather is good or when a breath of fresh air is desired, our residents can enjoy the secure patios and gardens at their leisure. One of the features of the building is its several nooks and quiet areas each of which offers a different view. Each person living here can find their own favourite place to sit and relax.

“Staff at Colne Place are passionate about what they do and aim to provide the highest possible standard of care”

Our more independent residents can bathe on their own using one of our 5 bathrooms, and, for those who need assistance washing, we also have 3 bathrooms with the equipment required. Our staff help residents with mobility both inside and outside the home.

Staff at Colne Place are passionate about what they do and aim to provide the highest possible standards of care. Our team consists of senior carers and care assistants who are trained to meet the needs of frail and elderly people. The excellent cook and kitchen staff make delicious and nutritious meals on a daily basis, taking into account the dietary requirements of each individual resident. Meanwhile the housekeeping, domestic and laundry teams ensure every inch of the home is clean and hygienic. The building is maintained and kept secure by the maintenance staff, who can also help residents change the décor of their rooms.

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Our activities coordinator plans a whole range of exciting and stimulating sessions within Colne Place, in addition to excursions outside of the home, to ensure that residents live life as fully as they are able. Our managers running the home make sure professional standards are met – and exceeded – while keeping a close eye on everybody’s wellbeing.

Staff training takes place on an ongoing basis, with carers regularly completing their update courses according to national guidelines. Many of our staff take additional courses and extra training to advance their careers and improve their contribution to Colne Place.

Teamwork is what underpins our approach. Everyone works together as a team, and alongside external professionals such as doctors and district nurses, to ensure that the needs of each individual patient are met. We are committed to protecting the rights of every resident in our care, ensuring their dignity, privacy and choices are respected.

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Eating, activities and entertainment

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No matter how young or old you are, food is one of life's great pleasures. We make sure that residents at Colne Place receive meals that are nutritious, delicious and enjoyable to eat.

Cooked breakfasts, cereals, toast and fruit are available every morning. The main meal is served at lunchtime, with a choice of two dinners from the menu, which changes day to day and season to season. Roasts, sausage casserole and fish and chips on a Friday are popular choices. If a resident doesn't like what's on the menu at any time, omelettes, jacket potatoes, salads and other favourite options may also be requested. In the evening, light suppers are served with hot and cold choices. Mid-morning and afternoon teas are served every day, offering a selection of drinks as well as biscuits, cakes and portions of healthy fruit.

Our cook takes into account the specific dietary requirements of each resident. These might be down to a condition or allergy such as diabetes or wheat intolerance, they might be due to culture or religion, or purely based on an individual's tastes. Residents play an active role in helping develop the menu at Colne Place, and it's updated regularly to reflect this. Mealtimes present the opportunity to socialise, however anyone who wants to eat in the privacy of their room is free to do so.

Residents are encouraged to continue their hobbies and interests when they move to Colne Place. We have a dedicated activities coordinators who leads a variety of recreational activities both for fun and for wellbeing. There are light keep fit sessions, and a whole range of art and craft activities such as pottery, knitting and collage-making. The visiting entertainers, quiz sessions and games like bingo and giant Ludo are popular. As well as group activities, our activities organiser also does things one-on-one with individual residents, focusing on their personal interests.

The home has excellent gardens and residents grow fruit and vegetables which are used by the cook. We hold lots of celebrations at Colne Place including barbeques and garden parties in the summer, birthday parties for residents, and other special occasions like Christmas, Easter, Halloween, the saints' days and public holidays.

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The home frequently hires a minibus for outings, taking residents out on short shopping excursions to nearby towns and villages, or to parks in the area. Pub lunches at The Blacksmiths and The Castle are very popular, and in the summer we go further afield for days on the seaside.

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*At the heart of the
community*

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Earls Colne is in a truly idyllic rural setting, and the care home plays an important role in village life. It is the only home offering residential care for the elderly in the village and has a reputation in the wider Four Colnes area for the high quality care offered.

The home is literally across the road from St Andrew's, the ancient parish church in Earls Colne. Residents attend services there, accompanied by staff. Church of England, Roman Catholic and Methodist services are also held in the home on a regular basis. All faiths are respected at Colne Place and relevant ministers and priests of other faiths will be invited to the home according to the individual needs of any resident.

“Earls Colne is in a truly idyllic rural setting”

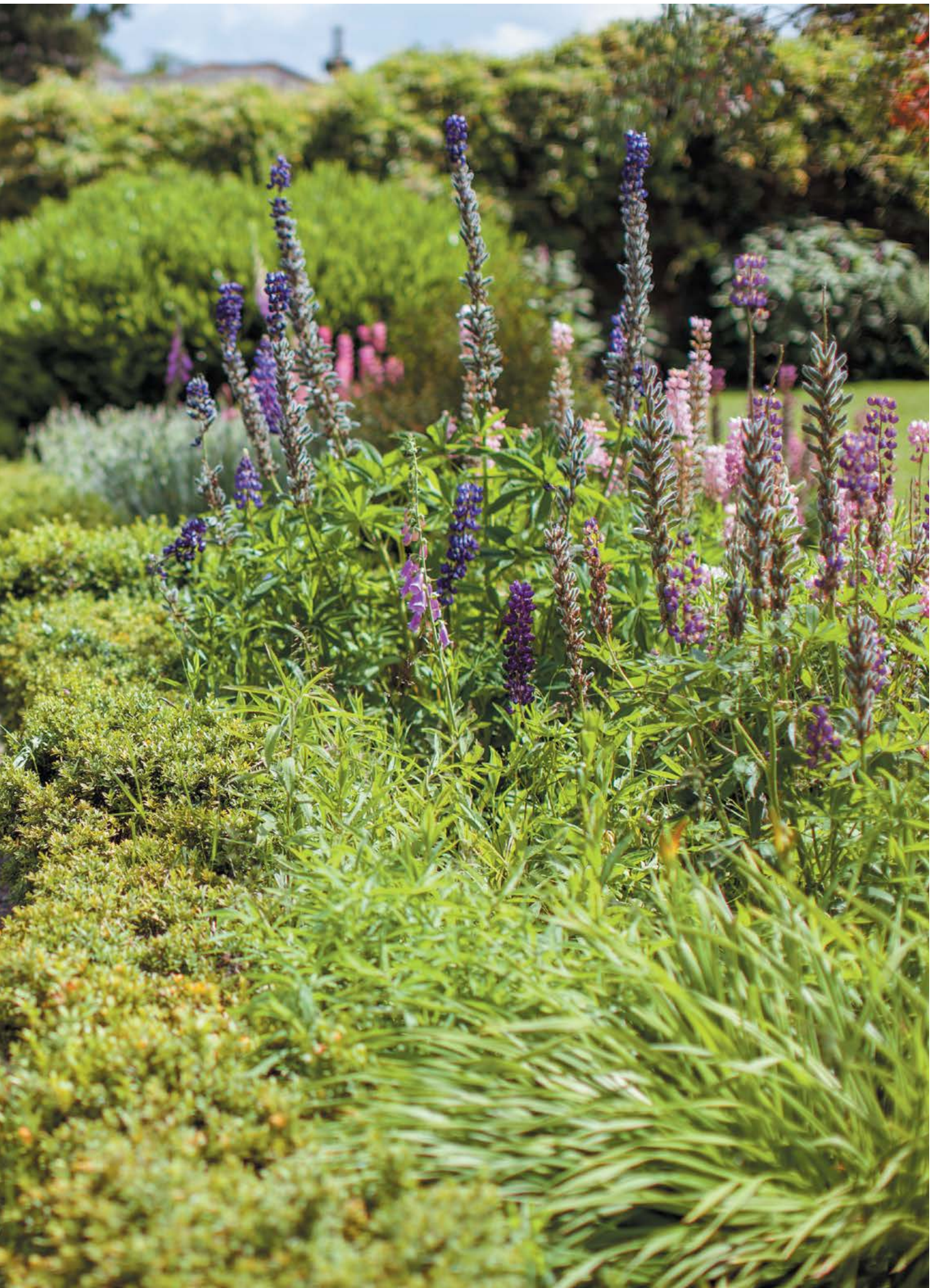
We are on the high street, very close to pubs, cafes, pharmacies, parks and other local amenities. Some residents who are mobile enough continue to take part in the same clubs and societies they were members of prior to moving to Colne Place, going to lunchtime meetings and getting together with friends in local cafes. Those in wheelchairs or with other mobility issues can visit local amenities accompanied by staff and/or friends and family.

There are close ties with local schools, with groups of children coming in to entertain with singing, plays and music performances, particularly at Christmas and Easter. We also have classes visiting the home specifically to speak to our residents, finding out about their lives and discussing topics such as World War II for school projects.

Some of our residents visit the local library on a regular basis, and a volunteer from the library also comes to the home to read to the people living here. Staff and residents are active in the community raising money for the residents' fund and these efforts are well supported by our neighbours. The Four Colnes Horticultural Society supports the home and its gardens with donations, we are part of the Earls Colne in Bloom celebrations each summer, and our residents get free entry to the horticultural society's annual show in Halstead every year.

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Friends and loved ones

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We encourage relatives and friends of people living at Colne Place to play as full a role as possible in the life of the home. Family and friends can visit at any time, day or night. Arrangements can also be made with staff for residents to leave the home to visit with friends or relatives. Theme nights and celebrations in the home are also a fantastic opportunity for family to share in life here at Colne Place. Our summer barbecues and garden parties are very popular with relatives and we post details of all our events and fundraisers on the noticeboard so that they can take part.

Our manager has an open door policy and is always willing to discuss issues about the home with residents, their relatives and members of staff. Residents' meetings are held every two months. They provide us with the opportunity to share news about Colne Place with relatives, and to listen to their opinions about matters concerning the home.

Relatives can also play an important role in the care being provided. Arrangements can be made for anyone who wishes to eat with their loved one. Some relatives want to help with the care that their loved one receives and if this is the case we welcome their involvement. When care plans (see page 23) are reviewed and changed, residents can have whomever they wish present and this often involves family members and, where relevant, social workers. We encourage close relatives to take the greatest interest in care plans and their development.

There are also opportunities for friends and family of residents to volunteer at the home. Some people whose relatives lived here at Colne Place but have passed away continue to visit us, maintaining friendships with residents and attending our events. We consider Colne Place to be like one, big family and residents and relatives alike are treated with compassion, dignity and respect.

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Individual care

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At Colne Place, providing individual care is one of our core values. The personal requirements, preferences and wishes of our residents guide us in everything we do, and because of this Colne Place has a truly homely and comfortable atmosphere.

From rising in the morning to retiring at night, residents make their own choices throughout the day. What is eaten at mealtimes, whether residents join in or opt for privacy, what is shown on the TV and all the activities available, everything is based on the wishes of everyone living in the home.

Residents are encouraged to personalise their rooms by bringing with them their favourite pictures, ornaments, keepsakes and furniture. Electrical equipment such as televisions, radios, CD players and computers can be brought to the home, and privately paid telephone and broadband lines can be installed. If a resident wishes, we can also help personalise the décor of their room – within reason.

Everyone who lives at Colne Place has a dedicated carer called a key worker. This member of our team will pay special attention to a resident's personal needs and wishes, helping them settle in the home and supporting them in a whole range of ways. From helping to remember relatives' birthdays through ensuring residents get the meals they want, and on to assisting with medical issues, key workers are a vital part of individual care. Local GPs are nearby and doctors and district nurses visit the home to see residents on a daily basis.

Every resident has a care plan which is developed with the resident, their family members and input from social services, where relevant. This begins with an assessment before entering the home and continues after arrival. Any physical ailments or medical conditions are key elements in a care plan, but the personality of the individual is also very important. Learning about each resident's life experiences, family, career, hobbies, interests, friendships and beliefs helps us provide more personal care.

Residents are involved with choices around Colne Place. They help decide how communal areas are decorated and used, as well as the gardens. We regularly update the menus, adding favourite dishes and removing unpopular ones as tastes change. The activities we do in the home are entirely dependent on what

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residents want to do. People living at Colne Place can have their hair cut by our stylist who visits once a week, or use a hairdresser or barber in the town. We can call in opticians, dentists, chiropodists, physiotherapists, reflexologists and a range of other services as and when individual residents require them.

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and comfortable atmosphere”*

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In Summary

Type of service:	<i>Care Home without Nursing</i>
Registered organisation that provides care:	<i>Handsale Limited</i>
Registration:	<i>Registered to accommodate a maximum of 33 service users</i>
Total Staff:	<i>37</i>
Activities Coordinators:	<i>1</i>
En suite bedrooms:	<i>20 rooms</i>
Residential care:	<i>33 rooms</i>
Total bath/shower rooms:	<i>5</i>
Assisted bath/shower rooms:	<i>3</i>
Lounges/recreation rooms:	<i>2</i>
Quiet Rooms:	<i>3</i>
Dining areas:	<i>2</i>
Gardens:	<i>Yes</i>
Visitor parking:	<i>Yes</i>
Lift access to all floors:	<i>Yes</i>
Wheelchair access:	<i>Yes</i>
Pets allowed:	<i>With manager's approval</i>
Visiting GP	<i>Yes</i>
Visiting Physiotherapist:	<i>Upon request</i>
Visiting Chiropractor:	<i>Yes</i>
Visiting Chiropodist:	<i>Upon request</i>
Visiting Dentist:	<i>Yes</i>
Visiting Optician:	<i>Yes</i>

About Handsale

Founded in 1988, Handsale has over 24 years experience in healthcare and currently operates eight care homes, all of which are located in the United Kingdom. Starting as a family business all those years ago, our core values have not changed to this day – we believe that everyone has the right to dignity, respect and choice. Handsale promises the highest quality individual care.

Each Handsale care home is exactly that – a home. They are all situated in carefully chosen areas where our residents can continue to lead fulfilling lives while feeling confident and secure. All of our homes are run with an ethos based on quality, trust and support. We pride ourselves on being an integral part of each of the communities we serve.

Clear, honest and easy communication is important to us in all our dealings. Our fully-trained professional staff play a crucial part in this. We currently employ around 600 people, all of whom provide our residents with the friendly, personal and compassionate care they deserve, whilst also providing an environment in which both residents and their families feel safe, secure and happy.

Our managers are all experienced, skilled and caring. Each of them has an open door policy should you have any questions or require further information. But most importantly, we promise we will never let our standards slip. Here at Handsale we will never waver from our core values and will continue striving for better. That's what we'd want for our own loved ones, and it's no less than you should expect.

