



ARAN HALL SCHOOL

part of the SENAD Group

Prospectus 2019/2020





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Welcome to Aran Hall School

The choice about which school to send your child to is an extremely important one for any parent or carer: We hope that this prospectus will give you lots of interesting and useful information about why Aran Hall School could be the right place.

We provide flexible 38 to 52 week residential care with education to children and young people with a range of learning disabilities and autistic spectrum disorders, both with associated severe challenging behaviour.

By providing care and education on the same site we ensure that children's individual programmes are delivered consistently. Our focus is to provide a safe, stable and nurturing environment where young peoples skills and aspirations can be encouraged to develop.

We develop education, care and behavioural management programmes for each student. These programmes are evidence based which enable us to demonstrate students achievements. We are a leader in conducting and publishing clinical research that evaluates the effectiveness of the innovative programmes we run.

The only way to be sure about which school is right for your child is to visit and decide for yourself. Please contact us to arrange a visit or ask any questions you have.



Duncan Pritchard
Principal



The school has a 24 hour curriculum that aims to:

- Re-engage students in education by providing a nurturing and stable environment.
- Bring about a reduction in the frequency and intensity of any challenging behaviour
- Increase student's communication skills
- Develop self care and independent living skills
- Increase opportunities for community participation and social integration to promote inclusion and a sense of self and identity
- Where appropriate, reduce levels of psychotropic medication

SHB Programme

We have also developed a programme for young people who present sexually harmful behaviour (SHB). The programme aims to reduce SHB via a reward programme for appropriate behaviour, sex education, counselling and cognitive behaviour therapy.

Education

The primary aim of education is to provide each young person with a broad and balanced curriculum that is relevant to their individual needs.

The curriculum

The School uses ASDAN as its main focus of curriculum delivery. This provides each student with an individualized curriculum that meets their specific needs. There are currently four programmes for students to follow, dependent on their age; Transition Challenge, Towards Independence, Employability and the Silver Award. Although most of the work towards these awards is done in class time, students work towards the Towards Independence Award both in the classroom and within the residential homes in the evening.

Students work is externally moderated and the School has been praised by ASDAN's regional officers for high quality, both in the extensive range of activities that the students have taken part in the clarity and way evidence is collected.

To enable students to access all aspects of their education we have developed a strong behavioural management programme using the expertise of our Consultant Psychologist. The assessment identifies the function of the challenging behaviour the student presents and enables staff to develop a risk assessment and management plan which describes the problem behaviours and the safety measures that should be used to manage the behaviour should it occur. The plan also details the context in which the behaviour occurs, what motivates the behaviour and what events maintain the behaviour. A plan is written on how to manage these variables in order to reduce the frequency and the severity of the students challenging behaviour.

Further assessments may be carried out once the student has arrived at the school, if deemed beneficial for the student.

From their Statement of Special Educational Needs each student receives an individualised education plan, which is developed in consultation with parents, carers and professionals. This is reviewed once a term, with a full education review taking place every twelve months. In addition, we seek to increase the functional communication skills of all our students through the use of various communication methods including PECS and Makaton.

Our education department is made up of qualified Teachers and Classroom Assistants. Students are taught in small groups and each student is supported on at least a 1:1 basis in the classroom, which supports them to stay on task and have the best opportunity to achieve.

Teaching is divided into formal classroom settings and community-based activities, including shopping for food and leisure activities. We also have music specialists and an art teacher who visit the school once a week during term time. Students have been successful in music exams through Liverpool College of Music and students have sold their art work at local exhibitions.

On reaching 16 years of age young people are encouraged to attend one of the local further education colleges in the area. This gives them the chance to experience an educational setting outside of Aran Hall, the opportunity to build new friendships and is an important step in preparing them for adulthood.

'Most pupils have had disrupted periods of education prior to starting at Aran Hall and arrive with underdeveloped knowledge and skills. Over time, nearly all pupils settle, engage well with their learning and make strong progress in relation to their abilities and individual needs. Most pupils are proud of their achievements and the progress they make.'

Estyn 2017



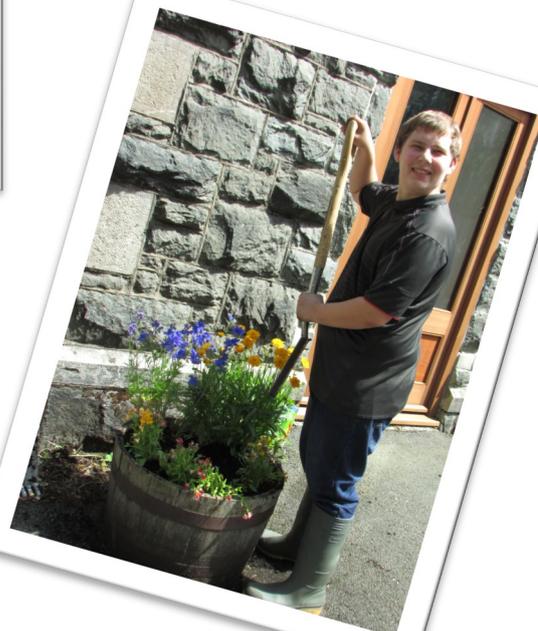
'The school provides a broad and balanced range of learning experiences that are tailored closely to the needs of individual pupils. These experiences include valuable opportunities for pupils to develop important life skills and gain relevant qualifications'

Estyn 2017



'The school offers appropriate work experience opportunities for a few pupils. These are well matched to pupils interests and needs. These experiences support pupils effectively in developing their personal and social skills and prepare them well for the next stage of learning.'

Estyn 2017



Residential Provision

‘Overall the young people feel safe and listened to at Aran Hall School. They trust the staff and find them helpful. They have a variety of activities and all are encouraged to develop life skills. They spoke easily with staff and were responded to warmly and knowledgeably. They have several avenues to voice their opinions or concerns. The behaviour programme is adaptable to meet individual needs. Improvements centre on paperwork to ensure a young person-focused approach is maintained, assessments are actioned and staff supervision is reflective of practice.’ CSSIW 2017

There are four residential houses based on the same site as the school. We have an individualised approach to young people’s care and education. In the care setting young people follow a programme called ‘Active Support’ which focuses on promoting their individual activities and interests.

Each young person has a Key Worker, a member of staff who takes a special interest in the young person and ensures contact is maintained with parent/carers and professionals. The Key Worker will also act as an Advocate for the young person.

All young people receive a weekly allowance and are both encouraged and supported to manage their finances. There are also additional allowances for clothing, personalising bedrooms, activities and holidays.

Each house has a weekly meeting which is a forum for young people and staff to discuss the day to day running of their house, including activity and menu planning.

The homes have a behaviour management strategy called RESPECT. The core philosophy underpinning RESPECT is its emphasis on the ‘whole person’ which means that each young person’s needs are taken into account when developing behaviour management strategies to help them control their own behaviour and learn to self manage their behaviour.

The care team is led by a Registered Manager who is supported by a Deputy Head of Care. Each care team of care staff is led by a House Leader. All House Leaders are qualified to Level 3 Diploma in Children and Young People and supported to work toward NVQ Level Team Leading.

All staff employed at the home are registered with the Care Council for Wales (CCFW) and are supported to achieve the Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care (Children and Young People) within three years of taking up their post.

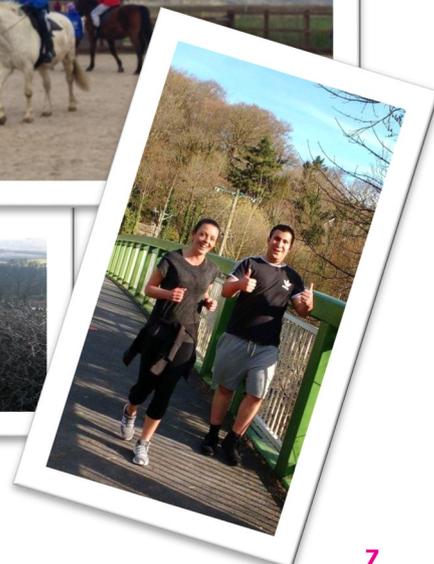
We have high staffing levels in the home to ensure that young people are supported at all times during the day and night. At night time we have waking night staff.

Activities

The school is set within three and a half acres of grounds in Snowdonia National Park. Students benefit from large open spaces, both grassed and hard surface play areas.

With support students make use of local facilities in nearby Dolgellau and Bala which include a cinema, library and shops. Students also attend a local youth club, horse riding at the local Riding for the Disabled Centre, canoeing and hill walking and play in local football and rugby teams.

Older students who attend college are discreetly supported to socialise with their fellow students at social events and take part in college field trips.



Specialist Support

Medical Services

Each student is registered with the local GP who has worked with the school for a number of years and has a good understanding of our students and their needs. They are also registered with the local Dentist, Community Paediatrician, Community Nurse, Health Visitor, Community Dietician, Speech and Language Therapist and Community Physiotherapist.

Consultant Clinical Psychologist

We retain the services of Professor F.C. Mace who visits the school throughout the year and provides a 24 hour on call service. His main role is to carry out functional behaviour assessments and develops behaviour management plans for our students as well as advising staff on how to support students through their plan.

Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist

Our Consultant Psychiatrist visits the school once a month and provides a 24 hour on call service. He ensures all the mental health needs of our students are met and that all prescriptions are reviewed regularly.

Consultant Chartered Educational Psychologist

Our Educational Psychologist is registered with The Health Professionals Council and visits the school every half term.

Consultant Speech and Language Therapist

Our Consultant Speech and Language Therapist visits the school to work with the students and staff once a fortnight.

Advocacy Service

We use Tros Gynnal to provide advocacy for our students. They visit students every fortnight. Through advocacy our students are helped to have their voices heard and ensure their views are respected. They may use an advocate because they want something to happen, something to change or something to stop.



Tros Gynnal Plant
Standing up for Children

Cognitive Behavioural Therapy and Counselling

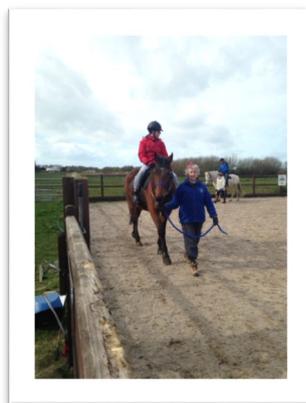
Cognitive Behaviour Therapy is delivered by the school's own in-house therapist. The weekly sessions focus on staying safe, understanding public and private behaviour and respecting other people's personal space. Key learning objectives from these sessions are consent, public and private behaviour and relationships. The Therapist uses a variety of therapeutic interventions including painting, drawing, making collages and sharing stories.

Sex Education

All young people, with the permission of their parents/ carers or social workers, have weekly sex education lessons which are provided by the JWSI Project, a specialist provider of sex education for children with learning disabilities and are part of the Family Planning Association.

'Over time, nearly all pupils make outstanding progress in developing skills they need to manage their behaviour.'

Estyn 2017



'Staff plan individual pupil timetables carefully to include a balance of therapeutic, academic and life skills activities. This balance enhances pupils' learning experiences, increases engagement and makes an important contribution to pupils' outcomes and wellbeing. The highly structured behaviour management programme provides a clear set of reward activities that promotes a wide range of skills such as turn taking, numeracy and communication skills. This is strength of the school.'

Estyn 2017

Meet the Team

Duncan Pritchard

Principal

Cert.Ed.
Dip. App.SS.
Bsc (Hons)
MSc (Psych)
MSc (ABA)
PhD
BCBA-D



After leaving school, Duncan began a career in engineering in Llangollen as a draughtsman. In 1981 he moved to Liverpool to study full-time for an HND in mechanical engineering at Liverpool Polytechnic. He then trained to be a teacher in design and technology. After qualifying, he worked for 4 years in a comprehensive school in Liverpool before moving back to Wales to work with children and young people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.

In 1995 he was appointed Head of Care at Aran Hall and oversaw the registration of the school as a children's home, becoming Registered Manager. In 2003, he was appointed Principal. Over the last ten years, the school has developed an evidence-based behavioural programme aimed at reducing the intensity, frequency and duration of aggressive and disruptive behaviour presented by children and young people with developmental and intellectual disabilities. The success of the programme has been shared with parents and professionals at conferences in the UK and the USA. The school has so far published 12 research articles in peer-reviewed journals (Duncan is lead author on 7 of these papers). Over the last 6 years the school has developed a multi-component behavioural programme to reduce harmful sexual behaviour presented by children and young people, and currently has 12 pupils enrolled in the programme.

Duncan's qualifications include a first-class BSc degree in social science from the Open University, an MSc in psychology from the Open University, and an MSc, with distinction, in applied behaviour analysis from Bangor University. He is a BILD accredited physical intervention trainer for RESPECT® Training Solutions. He has a PhD in psychology from Bangor University. His research focus was on the relapse of problem behaviour following successful treatment, and the development of interventions, including staff training programmes, that helped avoid relapse. He is a Board Certified Behaviour Analyst-Doctoral (1-14-17257).

Eve Patten

Teacher

A-Levels in English Language and Literature, Psychology and Sociology
BA (Hons) Degree in English
PGCE (11 – 19 in English, Drama, Media and Theatre Studies)

Eve joined the team at Aran Hall School in April 2017 following a background of teaching English and Drama in secondary schools in Bristol and Manchester. She specialises in teaching GCSE English Language and Literature and Drama. Eve now leads the education team at Aran Hall and oversees different qualifications pupils are working towards.

Since joining the team, Eve has worked with pupils to open and run the school library and arrange special days e.g. World Book Day, News Day, the Literacy Project and various charity events – all of which pupils have helped to plan and organise.

Andy Pryer-Smith

Registered Manager

MSc
BSc (Hons)
PGCE
NVQ 4 Care
NVQ 4 Management
NVQ 5 Diploma in Management



Andy began his career in care and education at Aran Hall School in 1992. Initially working as a Classroom Assistant, he was promoted to the post of Teacher in 1994. In 1998 he joined the care team as Team Leader and in 2004 was appointed Registered Manager.

Llio Eiri

Deputy Head of Care

BA Sociology and Social Policy
PGCE
NVQ 5 Diploma in Management



Llio began her career at Aran Hall School in 1997 working as a Residential Support Worker. She joined the Education Team in 2001 as a Classroom Assistant. Following a number of years working away from the school, as a Lecturer in further education, Llio returned to the school as Deputy Head of Care in 2011. Llio is currently working towards an MSc in Applied Behaviour Analysis.

A full list of staff and their qualifications is available on request from the school office.

Referrals and Assessments

To arrange a visit or to make a referral please contact:
Caroline Parker
Group Referrals Manager
Tel: 01332 378 840
Email: info@senadgroup.com

If following this conversation it is felt that the young person may benefit from a place at the school we will send out a referral pack and request copies of relevant assessments, statement of special needs and critical incident reports involving the young person.

We also arrange to visit the young person in their home or current placement to carry out an assessment, including an initial functional behavioural assessment. This assessment is free and carries no obligation.

Once this has been completed the young person, parents, carers and professionals will be invited to visit the school and meet our staff. The young person will be given a student guide and other information about life at Aran Hall. We will then plan the transition of the young person to the school.

On arrival at the school the young person will be met and shown round the school by their Key Worker and will meet his or her peers, as well as other staff that will support them.

How to find us

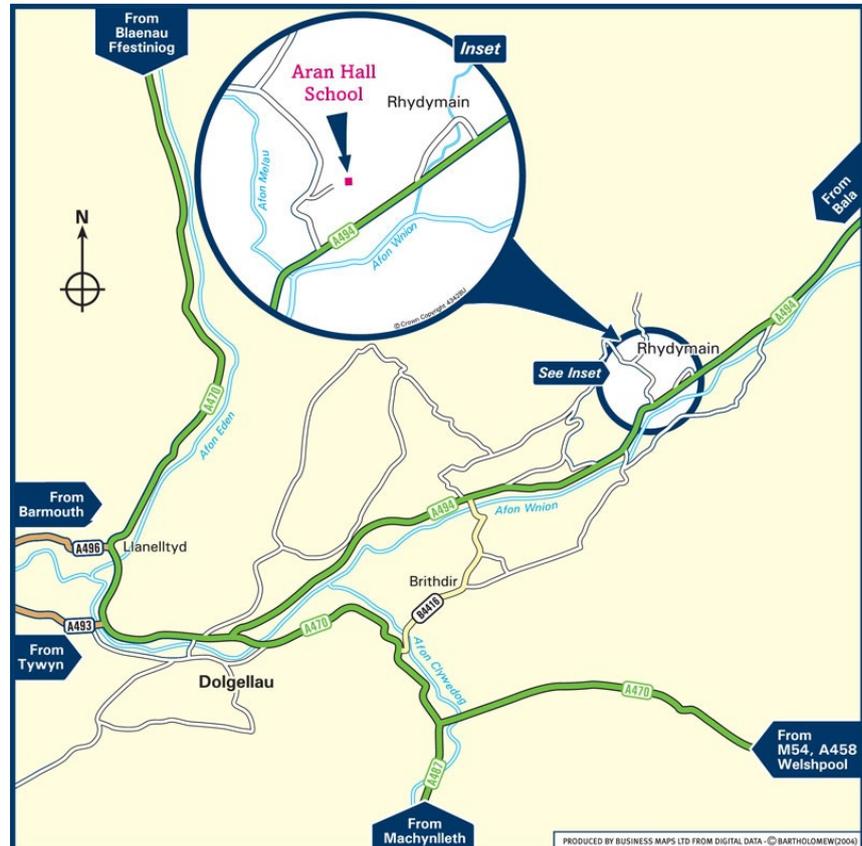
From the M54

Remain on the M54 until its conclusion at junction 7 and join the A5.
Continue on the A5 by passing Shrewsbury.
Continue to the roundabout junction with the A458, taking the first exit onto the A458 towards Welshpool.
Continue through Welshpool remaining on the A458, towards Dolgellau.
At the roundabout junction with the A470 in Mallwyd take the third exit onto the A470 towards Dolgellau.
At the junction with the A487 turn right (still the A470).
Take the next right onto the B4416, passing through Brithdir.
At the T-junction turn right onto the A494.
Take the third left (which is after approx 2 miles).
Turn right and continue to the end of the road, where we are located.

By Train

The nearest railway stations are Chester and Machynlleth. Staff from the school will collect visitors from either station.

For further information on train times and fares, please call the National Railway Enquiry Line 08457 48 49 50.



The Local Community

Dolgellau

Dolgellau is a small but bustling working market town which developed due to its central role in the woollen industry. The town has a range of shops including chemists, bakery, supermarket, green grocers and clothes shops.

Bala

Approximately 12 miles away is the market town of Bala which sits at the head of the largest natural lake in Wales, Llyn Tegid. The lake is four miles long and a mile wide and has a narrow gauge railway running alongside it. Unsurprisingly the area is renowned for its water sport activities including fishing and sailing. There are also fantastic places to walk and cycle nearby.

Places to stay

The Royal Ship Hotel

A family run hotel with 23 bedrooms and a bar and restaurant.

Royal Ship Hotel
Queens Square
Dolgellau
Gwynedd
LL40 1AR
Tel: 01341 422209
Royalshiphotel.co.uk



Ivy House Hotel

The Ivy house Hotel has 6 bedrooms. There is a guest lounge and spacious dining room.

Ivy House Hotel
Finsbury Square
Dogellau
Gwynedd
LL40 1RF
Tel: 01341 422535
Ivyhouse-dolgellau.co.uk



White Lion Royal Hotel

The White Lion Royal Hotel was built in 1752. Recently reopened after an extensive renovation to a four star Coaching Inn standard. Situated close to Snowdonia National Park.

White Lion Royal
61 High Street
Bala, Gwynedd
LL237AE.
Tel: 01678 520 314
www.thewhitelionbala.co.uk



Places to visit

Bala Lake Railway

The nine mile journey takes you along the edge of lake Llyn Tegid, through the beautiful scenery of the Snowdonia National Park. The train give excellent views of the lake and surrounding area.

www.bala.wel.sh/railway

Barmouth

Set on the West coast, 10 miles from Dolgellau is the town of Barmouth. As well as the old town which is steeped in history there is a large beach and harbour. The town has a large selection of shops, pubs, hotels. Barmouth is also home to the Fairbourne and Barmouth Railway which runs for two miles.

www.barmouth.org.uk

King Arthurs Labyrinth

This exciting underground adventure starts as you sail along a subterranean river, travelling back in time, into a world of myths, legends and storytelling. Hear tales from King Arthur, tales about dragons.

www.kingarthurslabyrinth.co.uk

Term Dates

Summer Term 2019

School in Session: Monday 29th April

Half Term: Depart Friday 24th May – return Monday 10th June

End of Term: Friday 26th July

Autumn Term 2019

School in Session: Tuesday 3rd September

Half Term: Depart Friday 25th October – return Monday 4th November

End of Term: Wednesday 20th December

Spring Term 2020

School in Session: Monday 6th January

Half Term: Depart Friday 14th February – return Monday 24th February

End of Term: Friday 3rd April

Summer Term 2020

School in Session: Monday 20th April

Half Term: Depart Friday 22nd May – return Monday 8th June

End of Term: Friday 24th July

Policies and Information

The following information/documents are available on request from the school office or on the school website, senadgroup.com/policies

Complaints procedure and data regarding complaints received for the preceding school year.

Particulars of staffing numbers and summary of staff qualifications.

Pupil performance and leaver destinations for the preceding school year.

Admission, Discipline and Exclusion

Education and Welfare Provision for pupils for whom English is an additional language

Curriculum

Prevention of Bullying

Behaviour Management

Health and Safety Policy

Health and Safety on Educational Visits

Policy to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of Pupils at the School

Exam results from the previous year

Disability Access Plan

Principal: Duncan Pritchard

Address: Aran Hall School
Rhydymain
Nr Dolgellau
Gwynedd
Wales
LL40 2AR

Telephone: 01341 450 641

Registered Managers: Andy Pryer-Smith

A full outline of staff and line management is available on request from the school

Provider: Mr Brian Jones
Chief Executive Officer

SENAD Group
1 St George's House
Vernon Gate
Derby
DE1 1UQ

Telephone: 01332 378 840

DCSF No. 661/6022
CSSIW No. W0400000651/2

Schools & Post 16 Provision

Alderwasley Hall School and Sixth Form Centre, Derbyshire

Age 5-20, day and 38 to 52 wk residential.
Asperger's Syndrome, HFA and communication difficulties.
Tel: (01629) 822586
Email: alderwasley.info@senadgroup.com

Pegasus School, Derbyshire

Age 8-19, day and 38 to 52 wk residential.
Challenging behaviour, severe/complex communication and learning difficulties.
Tel: (01283) 761352
Email: pegasus.info@senadgroup.com

Bladon House School, Derbyshire/Staffs border

Age 5-19, day and 38 to 52 wk residential.
Autism, communication difficulties and moderate to severe learning difficulties.
Tel: (01283) 563787
Email: bladon.info@senadgroup.com

Aran Hall School, Gwynedd

Age 11-19, day and 38 to 52 wk residential.
Learning difficulties, autistic spectrum disorders with severe challenging behaviour including sexually harmful behaviour.
Tel: (01341) 450641
Email: aran.info@senadgroup.com

Rowden House School, Herefordshire

(part of the West Midlands Learning Campus)
Age 11-19, day and 38 to 52 wk residential.
Severe learning difficulties and challenging behaviour.
Tel: (01885) 488096
Email: rowden.info@senadgroup.com

To make a referral please contact:

Caroline Parker
Group Referrals Manager
Tel: 01332 378840

Transition Services

OneNineFive, Staffordshire

A transitional home for young adults requiring specialised care and support.

SENAD Community

See below for more details.

Adult Provision

Ecclesbourne Lodge, Derbyshire

Cedar Lodge, Herefordshire

Winslow Court, Herefordshire

Park House, Herefordshire

Fairfield House, Herefordshire/Shropshire border

Orchard End, Herefordshire

SENAD Community (East and West Midlands)

Our community support team is experienced in providing high quality support and personal care to people of all ages. With a person-centred approach, they create a team that works with the individual to formulate a plan to enable them to achieve their goals and maximise their potential. This includes (but is not limited to) one to one support and direct care for young people and adults who have:

- Learning disabilities
- Physical disability and/or sensory impairment
- Complex health needs
- Rehabilitation needs (post-operative or acquired brain injury)

Support can be provided:

- In the person's home environment
- In the person's school/college environment
- To access community-based services and activities
- During a period of transition

For more information about SENAD Community call:
Tel: (01332) 200300
Email: community.derby@senadgroup.com



senadgroup.com



Find us on
Facebook



Follow us

Notes



Principal: Duncan Pritchard

Address: Aran Hall
Rhydymain
Nr Dolgellau
Gwynedd
Wales
LL40 2AR

Telephone: 01341 450641

Email: aran.info@senadgroup.com