



Community Children's
Healthcare Partnership

Thinking Allowed

Information for professionals



Working together, working with you

Thinking Allowed is a specialist part of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service which provides a single referral point for children and young people up to 18 years of age who are Looked After by the Local Authority and for adopted children who have been referred by Bristol Adoption Support Service (BASS). All referrals for Bristol Looked After children who require a therapeutic service come through TA. Referrals sent direct to CAMHS will be passed to TA.

Who we are?

We are a small team consisting of psychologists, social workers, nurses and psychotherapists.

We can offer:

- Assessment of the emotional needs of Bristol's Looked After and adopted children
- Consultation with social workers, carers, parents and family's on the therapeutic re-parenting needs of the children in their care
- Training including attachment focused training and groups for carers
- Referrals for therapy to local CAMHS or other services

Who to refer?

Any child under the age of 18 who is looked after or adopted where there is a concern about their emotional well being or mental health.

Who can refer?

Thinking Allowed accepts referrals from a wide range of people including; CYPs staff, young people, carers, other professionals.

The majority of referrals come from social workers. If the referral comes from a different source TA seeks authority from the child's social worker as they are the child's "care coordinator".

How to refer

A TA referral form should be completed. This form is available on the Bristol City Council intranet (search for Thinking Allowed) or from Thinking Allowed and should be sent to the address on the form. A chronology and any relevant reports should be forwarded with the referral.

Consent for referral to Thinking Allowed must be obtained from those with legal parental responsibility. Young people aged 16 and above are able to consent to a referral in their own right.

What happens next?

TA looks at referrals each day and will respond to the social workers within 72 hours. If a referral is accepted, an initial consultation (choice appointment) will be offered within 8 weeks. Social workers, foster carers and other professionals involved in the child or young person's life will be invited. The first appointment lasts for 90 minutes and is an opportunity to think together about the child or young person's mental health and emotional well being and how best to provide for their needs.

Any questions?

TA provides telephone consultation and the opportunity for professionals or carers to talk through cases before making a formal referral.

NHS Constitution. Information on your rights and responsibilities. Available at www.nhs.uk/aboutnhs/constitution



How to contact us:

Address: Thinking Allowed
Barton Hill Settlement
Joan Johnson House
43 Ducie Road,
Barton Hill
Bristol, BS5 0AX

Tel: 01225 831750

Email: thinkingallowed@bristol.gov.uk

Website: www.cchp.nhs.uk

If you or the individual you are caring for need support reading this leaflet please ask a member of staff for advice.

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