

Thank You!

We hope this leaflet has been helpful in explaining a little more about the service. However, if you have any questions or worries, please give us a call and we will be happy to talk things through with you.



01656 749 235



taith.service@barnardos.org.uk



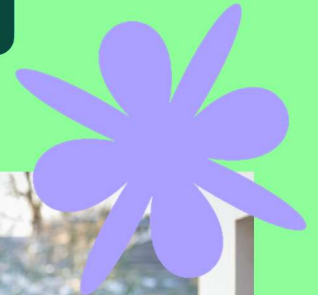
<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/resources-help-identify-and-engage-young-people-risk-sexual-abuse-and-exploitation>

BARNARDOS



BETTER FUTURES

CYMRU



WHO ARE WE?

Better Futures is part of Barnardo's Cymru. Barnardo's is a children's charity working with families across the UK. Better Futures works with children and young people who have concerns around sexual behaviour. This includes topics such as sexual needs, sexual identity, sibling abuse, harmful sexual behaviour and child sexual exploitation.

We work with children and young people of all genders, and support those **aged between 5-21**. Some of the children and young people we support have disabilities including learning difficulties.

We also offer support to families and carers.

We are based in **Pyle, Bridgend**.

OUR PROMISE:

We will always make sure that the topics discussed are appropriate for the age, ability, and stage of development of the child/young person.

We know how important it is to communicate with children and young people in a way they understand, and we have many resources to help us with this, including toys, puppets, worksheets and books. We will also speak to parents/cares and school as part of the assessment.



FEEDBACK FROM A YOUNG PERSON THAT HAS RECEIVED SERVICE:

“*There’s nothing you could improve on. I found it was all good advice.*”

I found it was very welcoming, very friendly.”



WHAT IS HARMFUL SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR?

Harmful sexual behaviours’ (HSB) are behaviours that children and young people do that are not appropriate for their age or stage of development. It could be harmful towards themselves, or others and it could be towards another child, young person or adult. Harmful sexual behaviour can involve touching and non-touching behaviours, and it can happen face to face and online.



WHAT IS CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION?

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is a form of sexual abuse involving a child or young person and usually includes some sort of exchange e.g. sexual activities in return for money drugs, gifts, affection or meeting emotional or other needs. It can also include the withdrawal of something, including the withdrawal of violence and threats of abuse to another person. It can happen face to face or online.



The Assessment Report:

The report will explore how we believe the referring concerns emerged. It will also discuss what support we feel the child/young person and their parents/carers may benefit from and the report provides advice on how to keep everyone safe. We might recommend the child/young person returns to us to complete further sessions so we can help. In fact, we do this in most cases. This is called a programme of work. We will also make other recommendations, such as for parents/carers/the referring agency/school.

We suppose the Assessment is the 'finding out', and the Programme Work is the 'sorting out'. We will then put all the information together and write a report.

SESSION ROOMS:

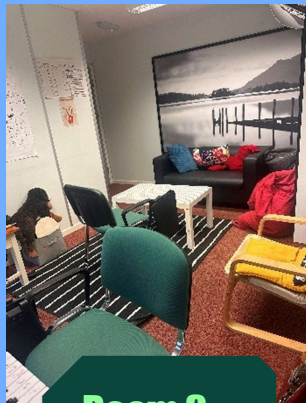
We have four lovely rooms at the Better Futures offices where our sessions take place...



Room 1



Room 2



Room 3



Room 4

HOW IS THE SERVICE ACCESSED?

Young people are referred by agencies such as Children's Services and Youth Offending Services.

WHY MIGHT A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON BE REFERRED TO US?

Referrals come to us if someone is worried about a child or young person's sexual behaviour, or if there are concerns around child sexual exploitation. Often, there is a crossover of concerns in respect of both.

We understand when sexual concerns are present for a child or young person, this can be extremely difficult for everyone involved, particularly in understanding what has happened. We want to support in trying to make sense of how the concerns started and continued, and how to stop them and keep everyone safe. At the heart of the Service, we recognise that building trust and establishing a positive relationship is crucial to any successful intervention. We aim to develop a trusting and non-judgemental relationship between the practitioner and child/ young person.

ASSESSMENT:

A referral will usually be made for an assessment. This can sound a little daunting, and we understand it can sometimes be difficult meeting new people in new places and talking about certain topics. But the children and young people who come to our service tell us they worried over nothing. Everyone at the service is friendly and helpful and want the best for those referred to us.

WHAT DOES OUR ASSESSMENT PROCESS LOOK LIKE?

Child/young person visits us to meet their allocated worker

The worker will discuss the service and ensure they understand all about us

They will have 3-5 sessions with us, which could be 1-1.5 hours long, once weekly

If the child/young person and their parents/carers are happy to proceed...

We will talk about lots of things, including:

Family, experiences growing up, friends, interests, feelings, as well as what the child/young person understands about development, puberty, relationships, and sex. We will also talk about the reasons why people are worried, and the child/young person may be asked to fill in some questionnaires.