

Acorn2Oak Play and Relational and Creative Arts Therapy

Referral pathway for children and young people



Child or young person aged between 4 and 18 identified as needing relational, play and creative arts therapy.

Informal discussion with Therapist to discuss the suitability of therapy for the child or young person. No Charge

Therapy is agreed.

Referral meeting (charged at session rate)

Establish likely length of therapeutic intervention. Depending on age, 12 weeks is a minimum for 4 – 12-year-olds. Most children with moderate to high need require much longer. Quote for or agree cost of therapy.

In costs per child or young person will be reduced if more than one child is referred for individual therapy in a setting.

Therapy not suitable at this stage. Possible signposting to other agencies.

Referral process parent/ carers, school or organisation.

Therapist to draw up Contract of Service to be signed by therapist and representative from the organisation or parent/carer with agreed dates, days and times, fees and Ts and Cs.

Therapist to supply DBS details, qualifications, copy of public liability insurance, data protection policy, risk assessment to schools and commissioning organisations.

School or setting to provide Safeguarding Policy and information on DSLs

School or setting to ensure a suitable room is available for the entire episode which ensures therapeutic confidentiality. Consider and arrange safe storage of the therapy kit.

Therapist provides a room included in session rate charge.

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Referral process for the child or young person

Member of staff – ideally someone who knows the child well to complete an SDQ or similar assessment and complete a referral form or meeting with the therapist.

Parent or carer - Complete an SDQ and meet with the therapist and sign the parental consent form

Child – meets with the therapist for an introductory session complete SDQ or similar (charged at session rate)



Therapy starts

Short review meetings with team around the child, SENCO and parent/ carer at regular points.

Decision made by all parties to continue or end therapy.



Therapy ending

All parties including the child part of the decision to end therapy.

Time given to bring the therapeutic end to ensure closure for the child and therapist, ideally 3 to 4 weeks.

All parties complete final SDQs and attend final review meeting with therapist

Final report written for the school or organisation, parents and other agencies