



Taith

Specialist service for children
and young people with harmful
or problematic sexual behaviour



Funded by
MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME

What is Taith?

Taith is an assessment and specialist intervention service for Children and Young People (CYP) aged five to 21 years with harmful or problematic sexual behaviour.

Our aims are to enable children to control their harmful sexual behaviours, reduce their risk to others and help them develop safe and healthy relationships.

Taith is an established and successful service that started in Wales in 2010. We have worked with over 1,000 CYP referred to date and achieved significant improvements across several measures.

Achievements



*Sources: statistics from 1. Taith Cymru 10 year evaluation, 2000-2010, sample sizes: before (114), after (48); 2. Taith evaluation 2008-2014, sample sizes before and after (35) and 3. Taith evaluation 2008-2014, sample size before and after (45)

A specialist approach

Our specialist practitioners use a trauma-informed, child-centred approach. They work flexibly and compassionately, maintaining awareness of the individual needs and circumstances of each young person.

How Taith works:

1 Referral

Who refers? Usually a Youth Offending Team, children's social care or CAMHS.

2 Screening

Screening takes place in order to identify appropriate referrals. (The Taith team will discuss cases that are not with the person making the referral.)

3 Consultation meeting

A consultation meeting will be held for the carer and any other professionals involved in the case to gather relevant information and explore safety arrangements.

4 Introductory meeting

Parents, carers, the referrer and the Taith practitioner will attend a meeting to explain why the referral has been made and how Taith works, including the parameters around confidentiality.

5 Assessment

Time is taken to develop a trusting relationship between practitioner and child while completing a structured assessment.

6 Interventions

Practitioners work flexibly with each child to tailor interventions to suit their individual needs. Working in an empathetic, trauma-informed way, they draw from a variety of evidence-based interventions to build a 'secure base' with the child. Child-led work can involve exploring traumatic memories, reflecting on behaviour and emotions and working towards change, through CBT-informed practice, alongside other approaches.

Working with others

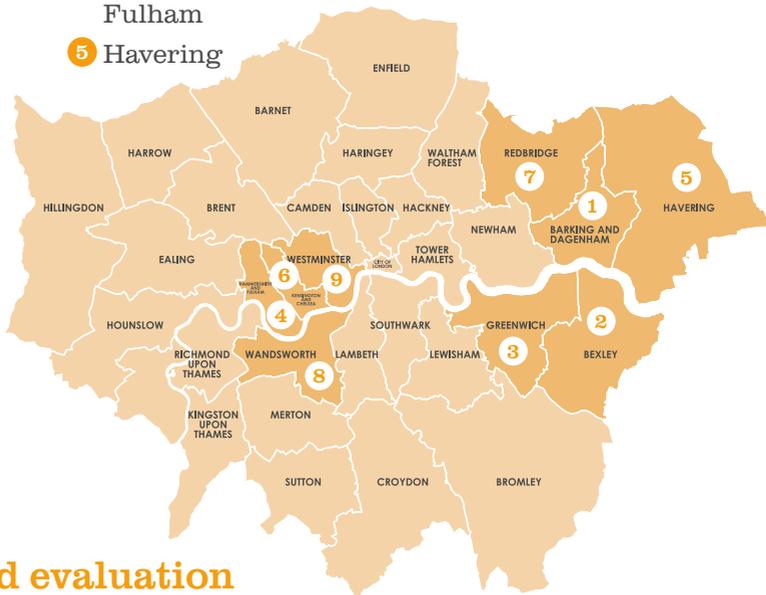
We also offer assistance to parents, foster carers and other professionals who are supporting the CYP.

"Gareth's behaviour has greatly improved, there have been no more incidents and he is a lot happier and more confident. I have been impressed with the clear and positive professional relationship with Taith." Social Worker to Gareth, 16 years old.

Where we work

Taith is funded by The Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime (MOPAC) in London and is running in partnership with nine London boroughs:

- 1 Barking & Dagenham
- 2 Bexley
- 3 Greenwich
- 4 Hammersmith & Fulham
- 5 Havering
- 6 Kensington & Chelsea
- 7 Redbridge
- 8 Wandsworth
- 9 Westminster



Research and evaluation

Taith is externally evaluated using non identifying demographic and psychometric information on CYP referred to the service. An evaluation report of the first 10 years of Taith in Wales can be found at:

barnardos.org.uk/taith/taith_downloads.htm

Working with Taith

If you are concerned about sexually harmful or problematic behaviour of a child or young person please get in touch.

Telephone: **0207 790 4621**

Email: tigerservices@barnardos.org.uk

Taith is part of Barnardo's TIGER Services. TIGER stands for Trauma Informed Growth and Empowered Recovery; Barnardo's unique evidence-based and evaluated trauma-informed approach. We also work with children, young people and their families where there are concerns around child sexual exploitation, sexual abuse or serious youth violence.