



# Taith

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

**Information for parents  
and carers**

**Believe in  
children**



**Barnardo's**

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## What is the Taith Service?

Taith is a service run by Barnardo's. We work with children and young people, aged from five to 21, where there are concerns about harmful or problematic sexual behaviour.

We understand that when a young person is said to have displayed harmful sexual behaviour, it can be an extremely difficult time for both the young person and their family. We hope to be able to offer advice and support to enable young people to move on and to have successful futures.

## How is the Service accessed?

Children and young people can be referred by agencies such as social services and youth offending teams.

Often young people and their families may not believe that sexually harmful behaviour has occurred. We recommend that wherever there are concerns, young people do attend Taith meetings, to establish if help is needed for them to move forward with their life.

*“The Taith Service has been like a wake-up call for our family. Seeing all this information in one place and your views on how we could do things differently is a real help. We will definitely make some changes.”*

Father of Kelly, 12 years old.



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## How Taith works:

### 1 First appointment

The person that makes the referral will set up an initial meeting with a Taith practitioner to discuss what is involved and ensure that appropriate consent is gained for the work we will do.

### 2 Assessment

The practitioner will start to get to know the child or young person and carry out an assessment, to learn more about the concerns and consider their ideas about relationships and sexual issues.

This can involve completing questionnaires and worksheets and using art materials.

### 3 Meetings with parents and/or carers

We will also meet with parents and/or carers to hear their views and in some cases another professional, such as a teacher, too.

### 4 Report and recommendations

We will produce a report based on our meetings outlining what help we feel everyone involved may need to improve things and to reduce the risk of harm. Some support may also be recommended for the parents and/or carers as well in order to help the family to better understand and support each other.

We will discuss progress and information sharing with the adults involved every step of the way.

## Where we work

Taith is run 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



## Got concerns?

The Taith Service is managed by Barnardo's London. We very much hope young people and their families value their contact with us. However, if any concerns arise, please raise these with the Children's Services Manager.

In addition to Taith, Barnardo's London helps children and young people recover from traumatic experiences through our TIGER approach. TIGER stands for Trauma Informed Growth and Empowered Recovery.

## Contact us

**Parents, carers and young people will have the chance to ask questions at the first Taith meeting, but you can also call or email us:**

T: **0207 790 4621**

E: **[tigerservices@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:tigerservices@barnardos.org.uk)**

