

# Adoption & Special Guardian Support Provision

Information for families Accessing our Services



# Therapy Offered



As adults it's our job to fit the child's world, not expect them to fit ours.

At eQuiPT we take pride in how we reach young people. We ensure that therapy matches their requirements & that they enjoy the experience.

Why creative therapies?

Because it's how children communicate!

- Art Psychotherapy
- Play Therapy
- Drama Therapy
- EMDR
- Counselling / Integrative Therapy
- Filial Therapy (family therapy)
- Theraplay
- Group Therapy

*There is more detailed information on our website about the different therapies.*  
***We strive to keep improving.***

## Qualifications & Registration

All our therapists are qualified to post-graduate level & are registered with a suitable registration body to ensure that quality in therapy is maintained. We ensure all our therapists are up-to-date with safeguard training, first aid and deescalation training. We support their ongoing development with extra training available such as SandStory, Family Play Assessment, Play Therapy skills, Filial Therapy, CAPA and many more.

# Assessment

Assessments can really help to ensure that therapy and advice given to parents is targeted to a specific child and not "every hat fits all" situation.



## Assessments offered...

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Family Play Observation                    | Assessing family dynamics                                   |
| 2. Child Attachment Play Assessment           | Attachment coding using story stems, based on the DMM model |
| 3. The Marschack Intervention Method          | Assessment of the child-parent relationship                 |
| 4. The Meaning of the Child Interview         | Evaluates the way the parent thinks about their child       |
| 5. PSI-4 Parental Stress Index                | A questionnaire based assessment to measure concerns        |
| 6. SDQ Strengths & Difficulties questionnaire | Measures a number of symptoms                               |

# Group Events



## Adoption Groups

We offer group sessions for adopters and their children. These events are on an evening and allow adopters to chat whilst their children access fun play and art based groups.

Booking is necessary to secure a space.

## Therapy Groups

We offer places in therapy groups for adopted children who need further support with their emotional and social skills. These groups use Play Therapy skills and for the older teens, Art Therapy skills.



## Weekend Events

Throughout the year we offer family friendly fun events at the weekend. These are usually aimed at fundraising for our community interest company and are at times of year that involve celebrations such as the Christmas Grotto event and Easter egg hunt. So watch out for these events and more to be advertised at the unit and on social media.

# Our Venue



## Welcoming

We have created a welcoming environment for children and families. Many parents and professionals have commented on how relaxed they feel in our space.

## Therapy Rooms

Our therapy rooms are full of resources for children and teens to explore their worries through creative methods that appeal to them.

## Contacting Us

13 Regent St, Barnsley, S70 2EG

## Central

Our therapy home is central, making it accessible to families on public transport.



Email your therapist by using: (full name) @equipttherapy.com  
Registered Manager - sandrageorgeson@equipttherapy.com  
Website: [www.equipttherapy.com](http://www.equipttherapy.com)

# Leadership



**Louise Fisher**  
**Responsible Individual**

Louise brings to eQuiPT 19 years of social work experience. She currently works as a senior social worker supporting special guardian families in Barnsley, working closely with the adoption team and has her level 1 and 2 in practice education, which allows Louise to support students. Lastly Louise is our responsible individual, bringing challenge and support to our manager and team. Ensuring that we maintain the best practice.



**Sandra Georgeson**  
**Registered Manager**

Sandra leads by example. She is an experienced BAPT registered Play and Filial Therapist, who continually strives to learn and improve her practice. She is also a clinical supervisor and is a skilled attachment coder, being able to assess the needs of children and families across the team.

Sandra is currently completing her NVQ5 in leadership and management and is involved in CAPA research in adoption-related attachment.

Sandra's passion is preparing & transitioning looked-after children to permanency.

Sandra was nominated for the Yorkshire Awards Inspirational Individual of the Year 2023 by an adoption family.



**Lindsey Childs**  
**Deputy Manager**

Lindsey Childs is deputy manager and senior Art Psychotherapist, as well as EMDR practitioner. Lindsey has a wealth of experience that is of value to our growing creative therapy team.

Lindsey is also training to be a CAPA coder.

Lindsey has been with eQuiPT since it was a tiny partnership business and so her progression to deputy manager has been a natural step forward for Lindsey.

# Safeguarding Children

At eQuiPT Children's safety is our priority.

Please read our Safeguarding Children Policy available in the waiting area and online. Please ask us if you have any questions. The main points that families need to be aware of are listed below:



- All staff have an up-to-date DBS check and are trained in child protection
- Our **Safeguarding lead** is **Sandra Georgeson**
- We log any concerns in our case file, this may include a body map recording where necessary
- If we have concerns we will pass these on to outside agencies, such as the child protection team and or the police. We may also share information with your child's school
- If it is safe to do so we will inform you, as the child's parent that we have made a child protection referral
- We may seek informal advice from a duty social worker before making a formal referral or informing you to ensure we take the best steps.

# Data Protection



As a therapeutic organisation we take data protection seriously. Here's what you need to know:

- We are registered as an organisation with ICO and each therapist has to be registered individually as data handlers
- We have to hold a case file on each client as part of our accountability as therapists
- We store your data in confidential case files online and these are password protected
- Where possible we will discuss things with you that we need to share with others, such as any therapy report we write
- We may take photographs as part of evidencing progress in therapy and events that we have. These are stored confidentially and will not be shared on social media without gaining permission first
- At review meetings we will share the themes in your child's therapy, progress made and any barriers to progress, as well as further recommendations. These are discussed first with your child before being shared to ensure the relationship remains one of trust between the child and therapist
- Please ask us if you have further questions



# Therapy Expectations



We ask everyone accessing our services to follow our expectations to ensure you and your child get the best outcomes. These include:

- Being on time for therapy and no earlier than 10 minutes before, to ensure there is room in the waiting area
- Cancel appointments in advance to avoid wasting a child's funding. Last minute cancellations will be charged for
- Stay in the building whilst your child is in therapy, unless a contract has been agreed for a older teen, and supervise them in the waiting area before the session and after
- Avoid asking your child questions about their therapy. If they choose to talk about it this is fine, but it should be their choice
- Avoid telling children to be "good" in therapy or tidy up. We need children to be able to relax and work through difficult feelings that may not be associated with being "good"
- Please don't tell your child's therapist negative things that your child may have done during that week in front of the child or ask the therapist how your child is doing. Arrange a private conversation for this or a review meeting
- Never use therapy as a reward or punishment
- Expect your child to get messy and make noise in therapy
- In the waiting area please ensure that you and your child do not use any aggressive behaviour or language that could impact upon others. Be respectful and polite
- Be fully available when your child returns to you from their therapy session
- Whilst you wait enjoy the time for you. Help yourself to drinks and the books
- You are very welcome and we thank you for choosing us.

# Complaints

We strive to offer the best service, but if something is not right please let us know. We will try to resolve a complaint to your satisfaction.



Please follow the steps of our complaint's procedure



## Our Complaint's Procedure



### How to Make a Complaint

There are times that parents, carers or young people are unhappy with the service they are receiving and if this is the case we want to know so that we can put things right.

