



DVIP
Child
Therapy
Services



DVIP Child Therapy Services

Specialist, confidential therapeutic service for children and young people affected by domestic abuse.



Domestic Violence
Intervention Project

How we can help

We provide a **specialist 1:1 child therapy service** for children and young people aged 3-17 who have been affected by domestic violence.

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enables children and young people to address the emotional impact of domestic abuse. By offering a safe, consistent and confidential space, children and young people are able to process difficult and confusing experiences. Therapy can also act as an ongoing source of support for children and young people undergoing significant life changes as a result of their experiences.

1 in 7 children and young people under the age of 18 will have lived with domestic violence at some point in their childhood. (Radford et al, 2011)

Who we can help

Our service works with children and young people aged 3-17 who have been affected by domestic abuse. The child or young person must currently be living in a safe and stable environment, and the perpetrator of abuse must not be residing with them. Any contact with the perpetrator must be deemed safe or supervised.

74-83% of children receiving play therapy show positive change (PTUK, 2011)

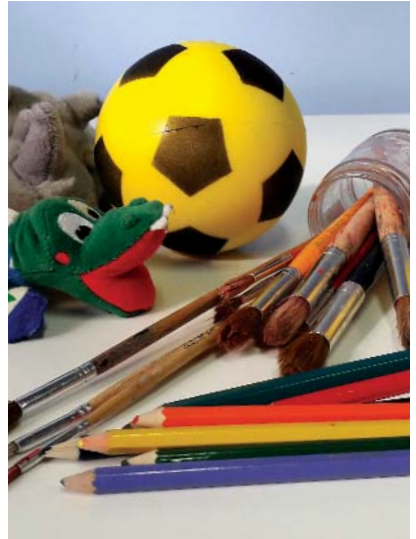
Individual therapy is free to children and young people who reside in our contracted London boroughs. All other referrals are on a spot purchase basis. Please contact us for full details and an up to date list of London boroughs where we are contracted to provide this service.

The support we offer

Our play and creative arts therapy sessions are non-directive and child-centred, focusing on the needs and age of the child or young person.

We provide an opportunity for children and young people to explore and process their experiences using a range of approaches, including creative arts. The methods and creative materials used differ for each child, and include:

- Talking and role play
- Dolls, puppets, doll houses and masks
- Painting, drawing, clay and sand trays



Following an initial assessment with the parent or carer, we offer short-term (12 sessions), mid-term (24 sessions) or long-term (36+ sessions) support. Sessions run weekly and last approximately 45 minutes.

The content of sessions is confidential. However, if a child protection/safeguarding issue emerges information may have to be disclosed to external agencies. Therapists will not pass on details of sessions to parents, carers or professionals working with the family; however they will discuss general themes during review meetings and in requested reports.

Therapy is offered by our highly trained and supervised staff team, all of whom are trained and accredited, fully DBS checked, and have specific insight into the impact of domestic abuse and the emotional needs of children and young people.

All of our therapists and trainee therapists are members of professional bodies, including the British Psychological Society, Play Therapy UK, British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy, UK Council for Psychotherapy, British Association of Play Therapists.

Referrals

We accept all referrals, including from professionals as well as self-referrals. Referrals from social services must include an up to date chronology and any other reports or assessments which have been carried out.

To discuss referrals or make a request for a referral form, please contact the service on **020 8748 8298** or **dvip.therapy@richmondfellowship.org.uk**

Contact us

T: 020 8748 8298

E: dvip.therapy@richmondfellowship.org.uk

W: www.dvip.org

A: 65 Aspenlea Road, Hammersmith, London, W6 8LH

DVIP has worked for over 25 years to increase the safety and wellbeing of women and children, as well as holding perpetrators to account and providing robust assessments and interventions. We work to stop domestic violence and to reduce the harm it causes all family members.



DVIP has recently merged with **Richmond Fellowship**, a leading national mental health charity, further expanding our knowledge and expertise base across a range of disciplines.

