

I'm OK, You're OK / X Primary School Joint Services Agreement 2013-2014



Definition of key terms used in this agreement:

- **“Counsellor”** means someone holding a recognised Counselling Diploma; who belongs and is accountable to a recognised UK professional counselling association and holds his/her own public liability insurance *and* an up-to-date CRB Certificate.
- **“Counselling”** means professional, therapeutic work undertaken by a Counsellor with an individual or group of people.
- **“BACP”** means the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy, the largest professional, internally regulating association in the UK.
- **“The BACP Ethical Framework”** means the set of guidelines for ethical good practice in counselling, provided by the BACP and used by the majority of counselling organisations in the UK.
- **“Profile of Service”** means the additional document provided by **I'm OK, You're OK** which provides a detailed description of the counselling service.
- **“Child Protection issue”** means where a child discloses information that raises any concern that he/she may be at risk of neglect, physical, sexual or emotional abuse.

I'm OK, You're OK will:

- Provide a fully qualified Counsellor to undertake counselling with children at the school one morning per week, during term time, from the start date until the end date agreed, unless re-negotiated by both parties.
The counsellor will:
- Provide therapeutic counselling sessions for individual children at the school site, during the school day.
- Carry out this work in accordance with the Profile of Service document provided to the school by I'm OK, You're OK
- Meet with the parent(s) at the start and conclusion of work with a child.
- Liaise with school staff as appropriate, in the best interests of each child.
- Allow time for administration, preparation and liaison.
- Undertake monthly professional supervision.

X Primary School will:

- Identify a school Link Person, to liaise weekly with the Counsellor in order to prioritise referrals; and communicate with parents, children and staff, as appropriate and in the best interests of each child.
- Make arrangement for sufficient time each week for the school Link Person to liaise and communicate effectively with the Counsellor, when he/she is on site.
- Make available a specific room appropriate to the needs of the service.
- Make time each term for the Head Teacher, Link Person and Counsellor to discuss and evaluate the service.

Child Protection, ethics and confidentiality:

- All Counsellors will work within the BACP *Good Practice Guidance for Counselling in Schools* and by implication, the BACP Ethical Framework¹.
- Primary aged children will require parental consent for counselling other than in exceptional circumstances of alleged abuse. There will also be specific information sharing with parents and the school in the best interests of supporting the child, with his/her knowledge and agreement.
- Should a child disclose a Child Protection issue during a session and the Counsellor consider the child, or anyone connected to him/her, to be at serious risk of harm, the Counsellor will inform an X School designated Child Protection person without delay.

Signed on behalf of X Primary School

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Signed on behalf of **I'm OK, You're OK**

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Date:

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¹ *The Good Practice guidance for counselling in schools 4th edition, Edited by Susan McGinnis with Peter Jenkins, 2002*