

A consultation service for Therapists, Guardians and Social Workers

We offer a professional consultation service for individual practitioners dealing with complex situations. The consultation would be provided by one of our senior therapists, who can draw upon the resources and experience available to us at Family Futures.

Complex Court Cases

On specific issues such as contact, sibling separation, attachments and assessment of therapeutic needs in a court context, a consultation can be beneficial in providing a framework for decision making and planning.

Case Planning and Case Reviews

For social workers making care plans, particularly with complex sibling groups, a consultation can be helpful as it provides a theoretical and research base for decision making that uses trauma and attachment theory.

Therapy Supervision

For therapists who have embarked upon the Dan Hughes and/or Theraplay® Training, the consultation service provides a forum for professional development and integration into practice of the principles learned during training.

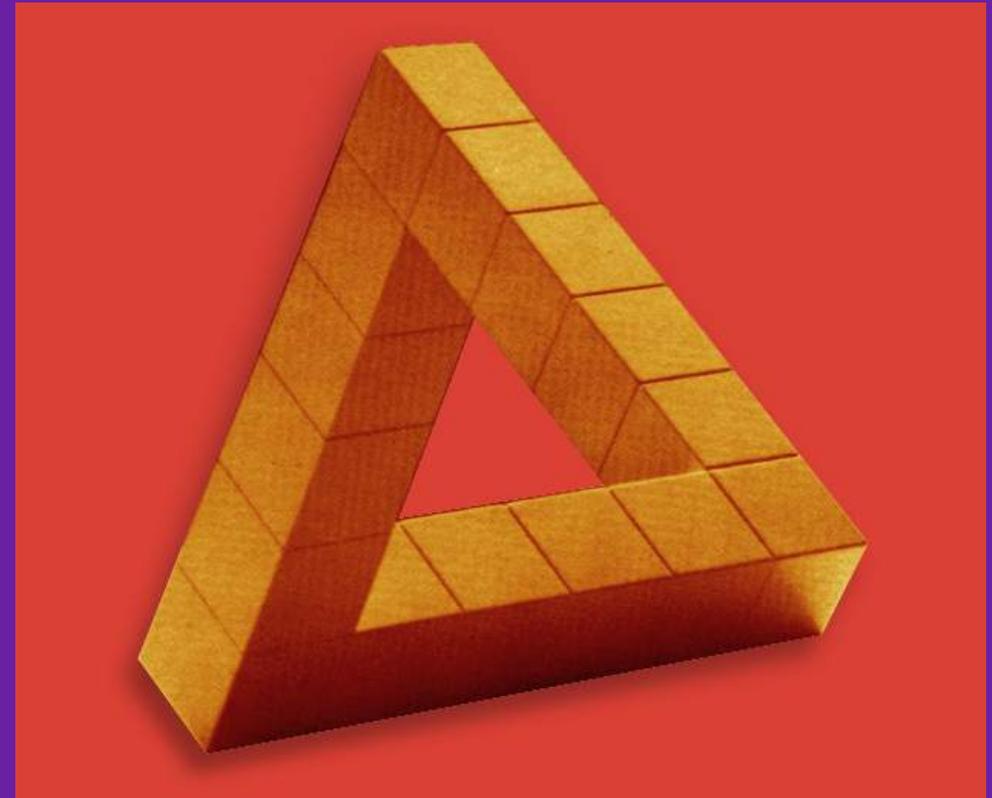
A consultation programme can be tailored to the needs of individuals or groups. Please speak to our training co-ordinator, regarding fees and arrangements.

Family Futures Consortium

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Adoption Mind Set



Family Futures
Consultation Service
for Local Authorities
and CAMHS

Adoption Support Services Investing in Permanent Families

Family Futures Local Authority Consultation Service

Government emphasis on securing more permanent and adoptive families for children accommodated is increasing, and recognition of the complexity of the task is growing. Therefore Family Futures aims to provide local authorities with access to a specialist service which can make assessments of children and families, and provide support and therapy to ensure that placements which are 'at risk' can be sustained and disruption prevented. Our local authority consultation service is an important element in helping local authorities offer a more informed response to the children and families for whom they are responsible.

Family Futures consultation service to Local Authorities has been designed to

Provide quick and easy access for social workers and parents to a specialist service when there are concerns about children who are either in adoptive or

in permanent foster placements or in the process of being placed.

Provides a way of managing and prioritising those children and families who may require a comprehensive assessment in the first instance or may require on-going therapeutic support or an intensive attachment and support program.

The service is offered in the following way

Two members of the Family Futures team are available at a local authority venue for between three and five consultation slots of a hour and a half duration. Typically, the local authority social worker for the child and/or the link worker, accompanied by the parents, would meet with the Family Futures' team to discuss their current concerns and to devise a short-term action plan. In advance of the consultation, the local authority social worker will have provided Family Futures with a brief outline of the family situation and any relevant papers or reports. The intention is that in the majority of cases, this consultation would be sufficient to produce a significant change.



In more complex situations, either as a result of the initial consultation or a subsequent one, the family may be referred to Family Futures for a comprehensive assessment. Families referred through the consultation service will be given priority to ensure an early assessment is possible within the 30 days.

A Managed Response to Families in Crisis

The consultation service enables local authorities to provide a rapid response, in collaboration with a specialist agency, to families in crisis. In this way, the skills and services of the local authority are enhanced and where there are gaps, Family Futures are able to provide a complementary service. Consultations typically would take place every six weeks to two months enabling any crisis or concern to be contained within a realistic time

frame. Subsequent to that, families could be offered a more comprehensive and intensive package of assistance if funded by the local authority. The local authority is able to specify, in advance, the level of service provision for which they wish to budget so that the use of these resources can be prioritised. For example, a local authority could decide that they would purchase four assessments a year. A decision to allocate an assessment could then be done quarterly, based upon priorities that emerge from the cases that have been seen during the two consultation sessions held during that period.

[Contact Family futures for costs](#)

For Further information, please contact Alan Burnell at contact@familyfutures.co.uk