



Project Overview

Because of the sensitive nature of the group, the children's work will remain confidential to the group unless there are concerns. Children will be made aware of this in the initial sessions.

Siblings will not be invited to a group together as children in the same family can view their experiences differently.

Each session will last approximately 1hr 15 minutes. Children 'check in' at the start of the session on how they are feeling and will 'check out' at the end.

For safety reasons, work is only undertaken with children where the abusive partner is no longer present in the home or thought to be a threat to the family .

Young People's Information Service

Referrals should be made via a referral form available from:

Bridgend Women's Aid

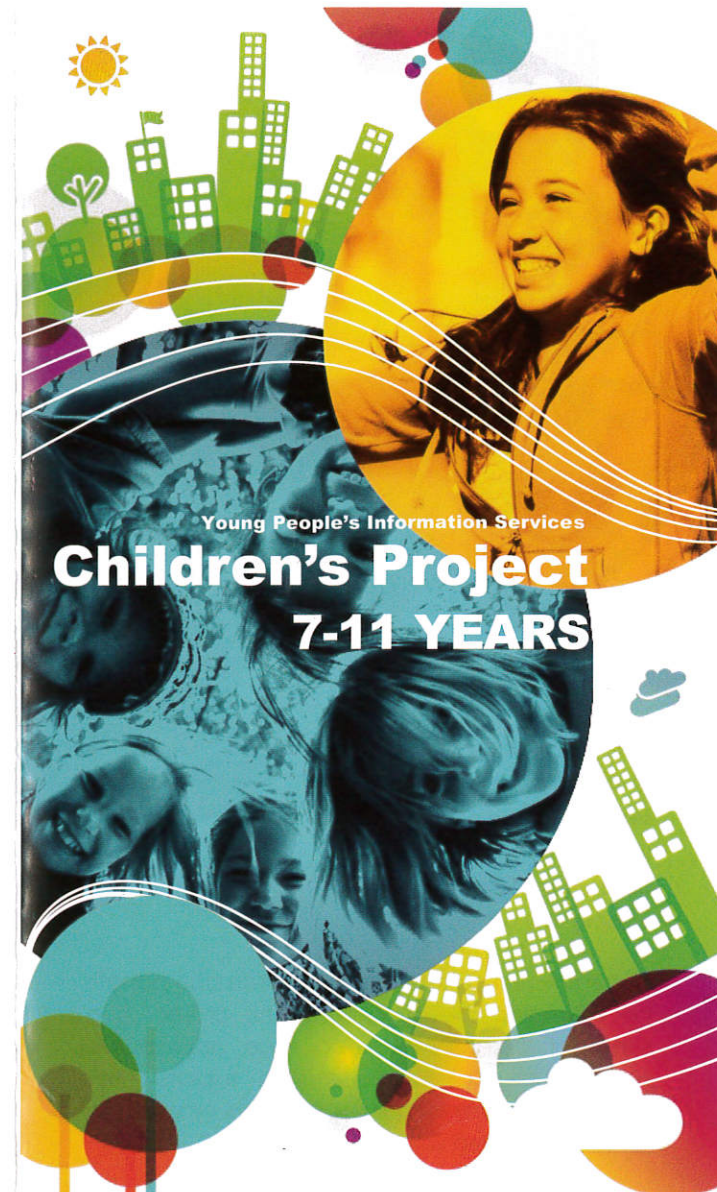
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Young People's Information Services

Children's Project 7-11 YEARS

For children who have experienced living with domestic abuse.





The project has been established as a support service for children aged 7-11 years, who have been affected by their experiences of living with domestic abuse.

Recent research shows that children can benefit by attending group sessions. This project is a series of carefully planned, age appropriate sessions, that allow children to explore their feelings and share their experiences around the abuse they have witnessed or suffered.

WHAT IT INVOLVES

The sessions will involve some collective work within the group and some individual working for the children. The children will use arts and crafts, stories, and DVD's as a stimulus for discussion.

Aims

Children are able to achieve the below points with others who have similar shared experiences of domestic abuse.

- TO RELIEVE ISOLATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.
- TO RELIEVE SENSE OF BLAME.
- TO PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS.
- TO LEARN ABOUT THEIR RIGHTS AS YOUNG PEOPLE.
- HOW TO KEEP SAFE.
- TO ALLOW THEM TO THINK ABOUT THEIR FUTURE.
- TO HELP RE-BUILD CONFIDENCE AND SELF ESTEEM.
- TO RELIEVE TENSION AND ANXIETY.
- TO LEARN ABOUT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.

How to access the project?

Referrals can be made to the project by:

Mums, Social Workers, Teachers, Youth Workers or any other agency working with children aged 7-11 years.

Children Workers at Bridgend Women's Aid carry out an assessment, which is undertaken with mum and the child to establish if this service is best suited to the needs of that child.

It is important to point out that while children who have lived with domestic abuse very often display challenging behaviour, **this is not a challenging behaviour project.**

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