



Consultations With SPACE

It is our intention to offer teams the SPACE as a system, to consider the needs of the young people they are looking after / supporting.

Consultations support adults to develop a shared understanding of a child's needs and relies on the expertise in the room to develop ideas to move forward.

This is a space to facilitate discussion with key adults with whom the child has developed trusted relationships, supporting them to consider the child's history and current experience to broaden their awareness and create a shared understanding of the child and their needs.

Given that we do not have a relationship with the child in question, our input as psychologists, will be to provide, general guidance drawn from our understanding of psychological theory and evidence based practice, across areas such as brain development and developmental trauma, neurodiversity, attachment, re-parenting, emotional literacy and co-regulation and resilience.

Any adult within the child's system who has the best interests of the child at heart is welcome to join team consultations to include; carers, CAMHS clinicians, social workers, teaching adults. The child's lead team (care or education) would initiate this invitation.

Discussions with teams may highlight the need for specialist individual assessment / intervention from the local CAMHS team. In these incidences, carers / teaching adults will be advised to talk with the child about their observations and to share these with the child's carer (in the case of teaching adults). **With the child's consent** a GP appointment can be made to share these concerns. The GP may then suggest a referral to CAMHS. Alternatively, **with the child's consent**, the carer can share their observations with the child's education team / social worker who can initiate a referral directly with CAMHS.

We are happy to work alongside clinicians from CAMHS who may already be involved in supporting a young person and it is important that carers / educators of children open to the local CAMHS team, inform CAMHS of our role with the team. We are happy to liaise directly with CAMHS in the best interest of the child and to promote joined up working.



Risk assessments are the responsibility of the care / education setting, although may be discussed within consultations. Again, if CAMHS are involved, it will be important for their views to be reflected in risk assessments where appropriate.

According to our duty of care as clinicians, should we have concerns for the wellbeing or safety of a child in discussion we will raise these concerns with the organisation directly and with the social work department if necessary.