# families

# the children can be...

- impulsive
- uncooperative, defiant
- unable to learn from mistakes
- emotionally flat, 'unfeeling' or highly reactive
- struggling to make and keep friends
- too familiar with strangers
- confused about their identity
- causing concern in school
- troubled by their past, their adoption/other placements
- wondering about contact with their birth relatives

# prior to joining their current family, they may have experienced...

- multiple placements before joining their permanent family
- painful separation from birth parents and other carers
- abuse and neglect in their first year/s
- other traumas

# their parents/carers may...

- have tried many different ways to help their child
- have run out of understanding and energy
- feel isolated, frustrated, disheartened



## we aim to...

- help parents and carers understand their child
- support parents with their own feelings and thoughts about their child
- equip parents and carers with effective parenting strategies
- help the child understand their adoption/permanent placement
- support the child in working through their early traumas and the after effects of these
- address issues of ethnicity and identity in the family
- prevent family breakdown

# services we offer

## initial consultation sessions

- parent/couple consultation
- family consultation

### assessments

- · comprehensive family assessment
- parent-child interaction assessment
- parent assessment
- assessment of contact needs and arrangements with birth family members
- viability assessment

Our assessments include: wide range of psycho-diagnostic tests, projective methods (such as Story Stems), Theraplay assessment (MIM), Attachment Style Interview (ASI).

# therapeutic work

- intensive therapeutic family work for children with early life traumas
- intensive therapeutic parent work to enable parents to become 'therapeutic parents'
- life story work with children and their parents
- early intervention and home parenting programme
- individual sessions for adolescents or parents in the context of therapeutic family or parent work
- contact work between adoptive/permanent placement family and birth family
- disruption support work

Our therapeutic work includes: Theraplay, life story processing with art and drama, inner child work, attachment communication, EMDR, somatic experiencing, therapeutic parenting strategies.

# professional consultation and court reports

- professional consultation for any professionals involved in work with adoption and other permanent placements
- court reports with regard to assessment of placement needs and future support
- advice and training for schools

# bespoke services

we welcome requests for bespoke assessments. interventions and training tailored to the specific needs of local authorities. schools, and other professional agencies

# our team is...

- multi-disciplinary
- multicultural and multiracial
- experienced in working with diversity





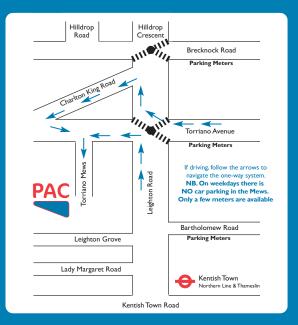
# PAC also offers

- counselling for adults adopted as children
- counselling for birth family members
- groups and workshops for the various parties to adoption and permanent care
- training sessions/days for professionals and parents

# Your first contact point

Advice Line tel. 020 7284 5879

Mon - Fri 10am - 1pm Thu 5.30pm - 7.30pm email: advice@pac.org.uk



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Pre-adoption Post-adoption Permanency Advice & Counselling







specialist therapeutic support for children and families brought together by...





Counselling

5 Torriano Mews. Torriano Avenue London NW5 2RZ

tel: 020 7284 0555 fax: 020 7482 2367 advice: 020 7284 5879

email: advice@pac.org.uk web: www.pac.org.uk

adoption long term foster care special guardianship

other forms of permanent placement