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Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service  
(CAMHS)

# Edinburgh Connect

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## Obtaining More Information:

Please write or phone

**Edinburgh Connect** at the address below

CAMHS Tipperlinn  
Tipperlinn Road  
(Within the Grounds of the Royal Edinburgh  
Hospital)  
Edinburgh  
EH10 5HF

Tel: 0131 537 6364

## Mental Health Service for Looked After & Accommodated Children & Young People in Edinburgh

To promote the mental well-being of children &  
young people who are looked after & accommodated.



Royal Edinburgh Hospital & Associated Services

## Edinburgh Connect . . .

- Edinburgh Connect is a mental health team for looked after and accommodated children and young people in Edinburgh. The team is part of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) within NHS Lothian.
  - Edinburgh Connect is a specialist mental health service. The aim is to promote and enhance the mental health of looked after and accommodated children. This will be achieved through effective collaborative working with residential staff, foster and kinship carers and other relevant agencies.
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## What do we do . . . ?

- Edinburgh Connect provides a range of approaches to working with children and young people. These include:
  - Consultation to residential care staff , foster and kinship carers
  - Direct work with children and young people who are in residential care
  - Training

## Making a referral . . .

- We welcome referrals from all key staff involved with and concerned about children and young people. This includes residential care staff, social workers. We can be contacted initially by phone or during regular *Consultation Sessions* that take place in each of the residential units.
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## Consultation for Residential Care staff . . .

- Our consultation sessions are, initially, the main forum for discussion about concerns for a particular child or young person. Together with key staff we will explore the issues, concerns and questions staff have about each young person. These take place on a 4 weekly or 6 weekly basis.
- The aim is to think creatively, develop understanding and consider possible approaches to working with a child or young person. During this process we will agree on any further involvement and interventions, which may include ongoing consultation, joint work with key staff, direct involvement with Edinburgh Connect staff or referrals to other agencies..
- We can be contacted by telephone outwith consultation times to discuss children and young people already known to us or to discuss potential referrals.

## Consultation for foster/kinship carers...

- Consultation sessions for foster carers take place on Mondays and Fridays and for kinships carers on Wednesdays and Thursdays. These usually include the child's social worker and the supervising social worker. It can sometimes be useful to involve significant others including teachers, respite carers or LAC nurses for all or part of the consultation process

following discussion and prior agreement with Edinburgh Connect.

- Carers can attend for consultation on one occasion or for a series of follow up consultations. Edinburgh Connect staff will write a summary of the session and distribute this to all those in attendance. If required we can support referrals to other agencies for children and young people in foster care or kinship care.

## Direct work with children and young people. . .

- Edinburgh Connect can work directly with children or young people in residential or kinship care. We are able to join residential, social work or CAMHS staff in assessments and brief interventions. Where appropriate we can undertake ongoing therapeutic work with children or young people.

## Training...

- Edinburgh Connect is available to facilitate, lead or organise teaching sessions and presentations to staff and carers. Sessions can be arranged according to identified need and individual requests.
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