

## Welcome to the Relationship in Good Hands Trial (RIGHT)

### Newsletter - August 2023: Edition 7



With this and future newsletter we hope to keep you up-to-date with the progress of our work. Please pass on to others who may be interested.

### Recruitment update

	Referrals	Consents	Randomisation
Oxfordshire	27	17	17
Central Bedfordshire	7	6	6
Hertfordshire	20	8	8
North Lanarkshire	7	6	6
South Lanarkshire	7	6	6
Adoption East Midlands	8	3	2
South Yorkshire	2	1	0
Nottingham	3	1	1
Bradford	5	1	0
Bedford	0	0	0
Adoption @ Heart	0	0	0
North NSFT	0	0	0
Total	76	49	46

There are still plenty of slots left in our existing sites so please get in touch if you have any potential cases to discuss.

A reminder of our eligibility criteria:

- Children aged 5-12.
- Adopted or in a permanent foster placement.
- With difficulties as a result of abuse and neglect in early life.

## New Sites

We are delighted that a number of new sites have opened since the last newsletter. This reflects a lot of hard work by the study team and our partner organisations to meet governance requirements, sign contracts, update our portal and train site staff and clinical research network nurses.

- Chrysalis Associates (working with Doncaster Children's Services (part of One Adoption South Yorkshire)
- The Child Psychology Service (working with Adoption at Heart Regional Adoption Agency)
- Nottingham City Looked After Children CAMHS
- Adoption Plus (now also working in conjunction with Bedford Borough Council)

Other sites due to open shortly are:

- Birmingham Children's Trust (Adopt Birmingham and Therapeutic Emotional Support Service)
- Adoption Plus (working in conjunction with SLaM NHS Trust and Adopt London South).

## Meet our new Trial Manager, Lorna Ginnell

We were delighted to welcome Lorna to the trial team at the start of March. She has been an excellent support to moving the trial forward in so many different locations.



*"I joined the RIGHT team as Project Manager in March 2023. My role includes both the day-to-day and long-term management of the project; helping to ensuring that the study runs to plan and in accordance with ethical and regulatory guidelines. Before joining the RIGHT trial, I completed my PhD in Clinical Brain Sciences at the University of Edinburgh and have worked on projects looking at brain development in children born preterm and for those born in low-resource contexts in the global south. My overarching research interests are around how long-term outcomes can be shaped by early life experiences. This fits really well with the RIGHT trial, but this study goes one step further compared to work I have done in the past in asking how we can best intervene to improve these outcomes.*

*I am so excited to have joined such an enthusiastic team and network of different people. There is a real sense among the trial team and our partner sites that we can make genuine*

*progress towards understanding and improving services in the UK for adopted and fostered children and families. This trial relies on the efforts of a huge number of people from the trial team to our recruitment partners, our partners delivering therapy, governance teams, advisory groups, and of course most importantly our participants. It is wonderful to be part of such an important and impactful piece of work and to be working together with so many brilliant people towards improving things for children and families in the future”.*

## Partner spotlight



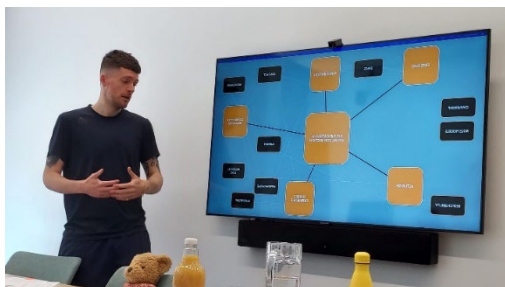
One Adoption South Yorkshire is the regional adoption agency for South Yorkshire, made up of the adoption services at Barnsley Council, Doncaster Council, Rotherham Council and Sheffield City Council, working together to provide adoption services across South Yorkshire. We are currently working with Doncaster Council in the RIGHT trial and hope to be bringing on board the other services soon.

Ellen Holliday, Advanced Case Practitioner, writes...

*"We are really excited to be a part of the DDP trial. We work with children and young people who have experienced trauma and attachment disruption, and therapy is often required to support them and their families. We know that DDP can be effective from our experience, so we feel it is important to be a part of this trial to have an improved evidence base for the work we do. There is not much research for therapies supporting children who have experienced trauma and attachment disruption, so this trial is really important. This trial will go a long way towards understanding how best to support the children we work with".*

## Young People's Advisory Group Update

The YPAG met again in June to build on the work that they did in October around coproducing a rating scale for the My World Game which is a measure used in the trial to measure a young person's social connectedness. Since October, Craig Houston, an MSc student from the Glasgow University programme in Global Mental Health, has been working on the data to feed into this work.



He writes...

*“I recently undertook an analysis of 12 interview transcripts from children playing the My World Game, with the aim of exploring key aspects of social connection (evident within the interviews) and to contribute to the ongoing development of the game.*

*This process has involved me becoming familiar with the transcripts (a lot of reading and re-reading) before I developed 'codes' which labelled or described a piece of text within each transcript. Once this was complete, I then brought all these codes together and searched for overarching 'themes' which each code would fit into. The aim of each theme is to capture something interesting or relevant from the transcripts.*

*To ensure that my research is trustworthy I was lucky enough to be able to present my work to the research team at a recent residential. There was a selection of the research team present on the day, this included the YPAG, Trial Manager, Chief Investigator, Project Manager and Senior Researcher. It was brilliant to meet and get insight from Naomi, Casey and Tiffany who represented the YPAG. In the morning of the residential we combined the work I have undertaken thus far with the similar work the YPAG completed at a previous residential, this allow us to discuss any similarities and differences we found and to explore the transcripts further as a collective research team. The afternoon session focused on the creation of the first rating scale for the My World Game. This rating scale will be used by nurses (carrying out the game with children in the future) to assess the key indicators of social connection. This will allow the team to explore, compare and contrast indicators of social connection, with other areas researched within the RIGHT.*

*From this work 7 overarching themes were identified alongside indicators for each. These themes are:*

- *Engagement*
- *Feeling understood*
- *Consistency*
- *Hierarchical attachments*
- *Rich network of connections*
- *Ownerships*
- *Know who you are and what you need*

*The next step is for nurses to trial using this scale and then continued collaboration with everyone involved to best utilise our new tool”.*

SUPPORTED BY

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for Health Research

If you have any questions or would like to know more about this study, please don't hesitate to contact one of the study team:

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