

## Who Is The Programme For?

- ▶ School aged children who have engaged in sexually harmful behaviour and who are now ready to stop this behaviour with the help of their families/ whanau/ caregivers, and staff at **STOP**.
- ▶ Children who are living in a safe, stable and supportive living environment.

## About **STOP** Trust

**STOP** was established in 1988 to provide community based treatment programmes for adults and adolescents who have sexually abused others.

The **STOP** Trust is a charitable trust independent of government agencies and is funded through a range of sources.

The **STOP** Children's programme is staffed by trained professionals experienced in treatment of children who have engaged in sexually reactive and sexually harmful behaviour.

**STOP** is a community based programme that responds to the issues of abuse in the context of family / whanau and community safety.

**STOP** understands that children who engage in sexually harmful behaviour need to accept responsibility for their actions and need to change this behaviour.

## How to refer:

Referrals are accepted from Child, Youth and Family Service, health professionals, counsellors, police, school principals, school social workers, and parents. Initial contact should be made by telephone.

## To Contact **STOP** Children's Programme:

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*This programme is supported by the Christchurch City Council and Child, Youth and Family Service.*

**STOP**

Children's Programme



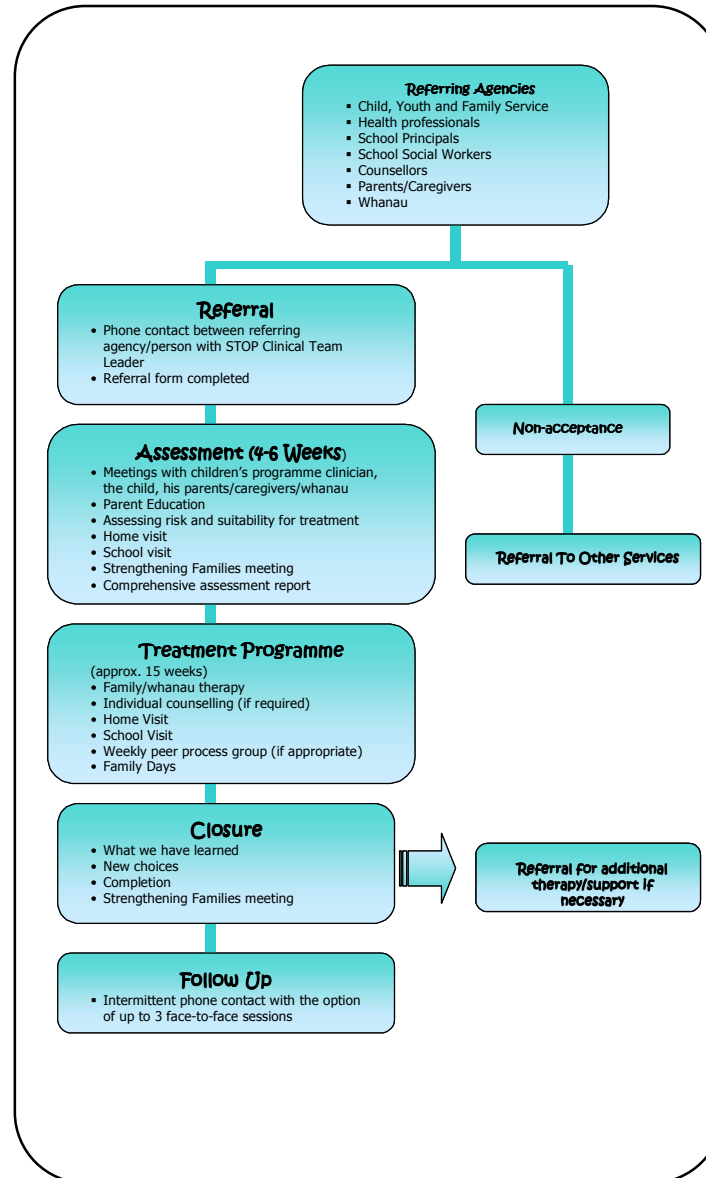
Promoting children  
being children  
in safe ways

## Programme Goals

To help school aged children who have engaged in sexualised behaviour to :-

- ▶ Stop their sexually harmful behaviour.
- ▶ Be clear on what is OK and not OK sexual behaviour.
- ▶ Understand and take responsibility for their sexually harmful behaviour.
- ▶ Understand the thoughts and feelings they had prior to sexually harming another child.
- ▶ Understand the impact of their sexually harmful behaviour, and how that may have affected others.
- ▶ Make safe choices for the future.
- ▶ Recommend helpful options if they have been sexually harmed themselves.

## STOP Children's Programme Process Chart



## When Does Sexual Behaviour Become Harmful?

The Programme provides an initial assessment and treatment, if necessary, based on a continuum model of definable groups.

- ▶ **Normal sexual exploration**  
Where similar aged children explore each others bodies visually and tactilely in the context of play e.g. playing doctor and patient, playing house.
- ▶ **Sexually reactive behaviour**  
Where children may have been sexually abused or been over-exposed to sexual stimulation e.g. poor boundaries around sexual behaviours of adults in the living environment or exposure to explicit media. These children may act in a sexually harmful way.
- ▶ **Sexually harmful behaviour**  
Where children engage in coercive and/or forceful sexual behaviour towards another child.

The STOP Children's Programme is based on programmes that have proved effective in North America, the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand.