



Max Brown BA (Hons) psychology
Specialist wellness counsellor
ASCHP licence number: SWC21/992

Informed Consent & Indemnity: Counselling Services for a minor.

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This form represents an agreement between Hell Online Counselling and the signees in reference to counselling services for a minor child. This form must be submitted in addition to the Professional Services Agreement, and Client Agreement forms. All information regarding terms and conditions, practice policies, rules, and operating protocols are outlined in the Professional Services Agreement.

Possible Challenges and Benefits

Counselling for minor children can have benefits and possible challenges. Since counselling often involves discussing unpleasant aspects of one's life, your child may experience uncomfortable feelings like sadness, guilt, anger, frustration, loneliness, and helplessness. Working through difficult emotions can sometimes lead to an increase in difficult behaviours before the child is able to utilize new skills or fully integrate their experiences.

On the other hand, counselling has been shown to have benefits for individuals who are exposed to supportive counselling. Counselling can lead to better relationships, solutions to specific problems, significant reductions in feelings of distress and improved self-esteem. But there are no guarantees of how a minor child will respond. Children are unique and holistic beings that sometimes require assistance and support to grow and develop to their fullest potential. Counselling can often be beneficial for children and their families.

Confidentiality

Counsellors who work with minor children have the difficult task of protecting the child's right to privacy while at the same time respecting the parent's or guardian's right to information. Counselling is most effective when a trusting

relationship exists between the counsellor and the child. Privacy is especially important in securing and maintaining that trust. In this practice, I provide individual counselling to children and ensure the caregiver/parent is involved in the process through consultation with them. However, to ensure a child's privacy I will not provide detailed information to the parent/caregiver regarding what the child shared unless the child provides consent. Instead, general themes, ideas and recommendations will be provided as well as support and encouragement to the parent/caregiver.

If it is necessary to refer your child to another health professional with more specialized skills, I will share that information with you.

This practice adheres to the POPI ACT 2nd of July 2021.

As a recognised counsellor at ASCHP, I adhere to the Code of Ethics outlined by the association.

Other areas of confidentiality and ethics are outlined in the Professional Services Agreement.

Revoking Consent

Both you and your child (not younger than 12 years) may end the counselling relationship at any time, without penalty or prejudice (except for late cancellations/no shows as outlined in the Professional Services Agreement).

While free to discontinue services at any time, it is preferable to have a dedicated final session to ensure the child understands that the counselling will be terminated, and to provide an appropriate closure to the experience.

Waiver of liability

By allowing your child/ the child in your legal care to engage in these counselling sessions, you agree that:

- They do so at their own risk,
- They are voluntarily participating in these sessions, and
- You assume all risk of injury (including emotional, psychological, and self-inflicted) to yourself and the child,
- Hell Online Counselling, and all employees, are released and discharged from any and all claims or causes of action, known or unknown, arising out of fault, negligence or otherwise, and
- Hell Online Counselling, and all employees, shall not be liable for, and the client/ parent/ guardian hereby waives and abandons any claims of whatever nature, including but not limited to that of theft, injury, loss or damage of whatever nature, against Hell Online Counselling, and all employees, whether arising from fault, negligence, or otherwise.

Acknowledgment and Consent

By your signature below, you indicate that you read and understood this consent form and that any questions you had about this consent form were answered to your satisfaction.

You agree that you have read and understood all the elements of the Professional Services Agreement that must be submitted with this form, and the Client Agreement form.

You also acknowledge that, by signing, you enter into a formal, and binding, contract with Hell Online Counselling.

I/we consent that my adolescent/child under the age of 18, _____ (name of child) may be treated as a client by **Max Brown** at **Hell Online Counselling**. This form is in effect until termination of the professional relationship (outlined in the Professional Services Agreement) or until 24 months after the consent was given (at which point this contract will be eligible for renewal). Consent can be revoked at any time.

Declarations

I, _____ (Name and Surname) declare that I am the legal guardian of

(Full Names of child) _____ .

Date of Birth (of the child) _____ (dd/mm/yyyy).

Parent or Guardian's name (please print) _____ ID Nr: _____

Parent or Guardian's Signature _____ Date: _____

*Parent or Guardian's name (please print) _____ ID Nr: _____

Parent or Guardian's Signature _____ Date: _____

*In the case of joint custody within divorce/ separation, both parents/ guardians must sign