

Euro TAPACY

EATA council has approved project funding to promote transactional analysis with children and young people. The Institute of Developmental TA (IDTA) has been offering a TA Proficiency Award for Children and Young People (TAPACY) for the past four years. In the UK several schools and education centres have run the award with children from 9 – 16 years old. The IDTA now has the opportunity to offer support to other EATA member organisations to run the programme in other areas of Europe – what an exciting prospect!

The IDTA is committed to promoting TA as a positive psychological approach internationally. Working directly with children and young people in schools is typical of the kind of work we do – it is about taking TA out of a clinical context and into more mainstream, public arenas. So, the TAPACY programme is focused on maintaining and encouraging growth and emotional well-being – it is not designed as a psychotherapeutic intervention.

The TAPACY process involves children understanding and applying six TA concepts. They can demonstrate this in any format they wish including art work, songs, games, role play, video and models. At the end of the process children gather from a number of centres to appreciate and celebrate their learning. They can also learn their TA from any source so their teachers do not have to be TA trainees or practitioners. However, it helps to have a TA educator involved to make sure the TA teaching is accurate enough, so that there will be no deferments when the children's work is seen by the TA assessor.

An initial meeting of interested parties is being held in the UK on 21st January 2010. EATA has provided funds to cover travel for bona fide enquirers. If you think EuroTAPACY could be run in your country, and you have the agreement of your local TA association, please contact Julie Hay on eurotapacy@instdta.org.