



## **Dr Nigel Blagg Chartered Psychologist & Registered Educational Psychologist**

### **Adult, Child & Family Assessments**

Dr Nigel Blagg has more than 30 years educational and clinical experience working with adults, children and families in multi-professional settings. He is a Chartered Psychologist with the British Psychological Society (BPS), an Associate Fellow of the BPS (#001786) and is registered with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC # PYL02660). Dr Blagg is also a member of the Royal Society of Medicine as an Associate Fellow.

His qualifications include a BSc Honours Degree in Psychology (University of Nottingham), a Post Graduate Certificate in Education (University of Nottingham), a Masters Degree in Educational and Child Psychology completed at the Child Development Research Unit (University of Nottingham) and a Doctorate in the Clinical Psychology field awarded by The Institute of Psychiatry (University of London). Dr Blagg is a qualified registered user of a portfolio of psychometric tests and clinical procedures assessing intelligence, personality & mental health and autism spectrum conditions in both adults and children.

Dr Blagg participates in ongoing CPD related to child abuse/protection issues. He has completed BPS training in assessment tools and interventions with children and parents in cases of alleged Parental Alienation and is the lead consultant within NBA on cases of this kind. He has also completed training in the Attachment Style Interview for Adoption and Fostering; Patricia Crittenden's Dynamic-Maturational Model of Patterns of Attachment in Adulthood; the International Personality Disorder Examination; the Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory – III, the HCR-20 v3 (to assess risk of future violence); the SVR-20 (for assessing risk of future sexual offending) and the ADOS-2 and ADI-R (gold standard tools for the assessment of autism spectrum disorder). He has also attended numerous courses including parenting and personality disorder, the neuroscience of attachment and attachment disorders, psychosomatic illness, medically unexplained illness, Body Dysmorphic Disorder, the impact of domestic violence and substance misuse on parenting and the Resolutions approach to the development of safety plans in disputed child abuse cases.

In his early career as a psychologist (1976 – 1990) Dr Blagg was responsible for the assessment, management and treatment of children and adolescents with a wide range of special educational needs including Autism and School Phobia. He also routinely prepared reports for the court on young offenders placed on remand. During this time Dr Blagg conducted seminal research into the aetiology and treatment of school phobia and the enhancement of thinking and learning skills in adolescents leading to the publication of a



widely used modular thinking skills programme and two academic books “*School Phobia and its Treatment*” and “*Can We Teach Intelligence?*”. For a number of years during the 1980s Dr Blagg was an Associate Editor with *Behaviour Change* - Journal of the Australian Association for Cognitive and Behaviour Therapy.

In the early 1990s Dr Blagg was commissioned by the Government to undertake a series of national studies on enhancing transferable skills and the employability of adults including those with special educational needs. The results were disseminated in the form of research articles, good practice guides and a series of vocationally based thinking skills modules for adults.

In 1990 Dr Blagg established Nigel Blagg Associates, a private psychology practice providing assessment and treatment services (including assessments of ASD) via a team of HCPC Registered Psychologists with specialisms in educational, clinical, forensic, counselling, occupational and neuropsychology.

Dr Blagg has provided expert witness assessments since 1993. Within the context of **Family Proceedings** and **Private Law disputes** Dr Blagg specialises in instructions relating to the assessment of:

- ***Placement and therapeutic needs of children in complex Residence/Contact disputes involving alleged parental alienation***
- ***Parenting ability, adult learning disability, personality disorder and mental health and impact of alcohol and drug misuse***
- ***Adult attachment style, relationship issues and family dynamics including impact of domestic violence and / or substance misuse***
- ***Harm suffered by children or risk of future harm with respect to neglect and / or abuse (including emotional, sexual or physical)***
- ***The nature of a child’s attachment relationships and sibling relationships***
- ***Therapeutic and support needs of parents and / or children, prospect of change and the likely timescale for that change***
- ***Placement needs of children following a Care Order, including whether siblings should be placed together or separately and the nature and extent of contact with the birth family***
- ***Children’s special educational needs***
- ***Complex cases involving school refusal with anxiety (school phobia)***
- ***Assessment of Autism Spectrum Disorder in both adults and children***

Dr Blagg has given evidence in Court on numerous occasions. He is listed as a checked Expert Witness in the Directory of Expert Witnesses 2017. Dr Blagg is DBS checked # 001488227012 (29.05.2015)



**Professor Eric Davis  
Chartered Psychologist &  
Approved Clinician &  
Registered Clinical Psychologist**

**Adult, Child & Family Assessments**

Prof Eric Davis is a Consultant Clinical Psychologist with over 20 years experience of assessment and treatment of adults and families in the NHS and independent sector. He has worked in medium and low secure mental health units, as well as in open mental health units and in the community.

His qualifications include a BSc Honours Degree in Psychology, Master of Science in Clinical Psychology (with Distinction), PhD (neuropsychology, memory and psycholinguistics), Thorn Diploma in Psychosocial Interventions for Psychosis, BPS accredited post-qualifying course in Applied Clinical Neuropsychology, fully accredited Dialectical-Behaviour Therapy course (British Isles DBT trainers).

He is Chartered with the British Psychological Society (BPS), and fully accredited by the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC). He is also a member of the BPS Division of Clinical Psychology, the International Early Psychosis Association and the International Society for the Promotion of Schizophrenia.

His NHS work centred upon the treatment of a variety of clinical disorders within adult and adolescent mental health, especially psychosis and also personality disorder. He was the project lead and lead clinician for an Early Intervention in Psychosis service set up in SW England which won a national award for its demonstrable clinical service outcome effectiveness. He is recognised as possessing expertise in the use of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for psychosis, and family work in psychosis drawing upon an integration of systemic and behavioural approaches.

Prof Davis also has experience of working with adults with personality disorder who present complex challenges to health, Social Services and the criminal justice system, as well as in assessing and supporting parents and families to improve their family relationships. Prof Davis is conversant with behavioural and systemic family therapy, cognitive behavioural and dialectical behavioural therapy and uses these approaches in an integrated fashion to aid assessment, formulation and intervention. These therapeutic approaches are further integrated with structured and clinical assessments of trauma and risk. Prof Davis is an accredited EMDR practitioner having completed Parts 1, 2 and 3 of this training. Prof Davis is



an accredited user of the HCR 20 risk tool. Prof Davis has also recently completed ADOS-2 and ADI-R training which are the gold standard tools for the assessment of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Prof Davis is the first psychologist in the UK to qualify as an Approved Clinician, conferring eligibility to act as Responsible Clinician for named patients within Wales, under the auspices of the Mental Health Act. He is therefore recognised as possessing specialist expertise in the assessment and treatment of people who are mentally disordered.

Prof Davis has undertaken further training in the psychological assessment of children and the nature and significance of their attachment relationships. He is qualified to use a portfolio of psychometric assessments and clinical procedures for both adults and children - assessing intelligence, personality, risk, psychopathology and trauma symptomatology. He accepts instructions on a wide range of issues including:

- ***Adult mental health, personality and learning disability***
- ***Assessment of risk of violence, sexual offending and offending behaviour.***
- ***Assessment of risk of future harm to children with respect to abuse and/or neglect (including emotional, sexual or physical abuse)***
- ***Assessment of the therapeutic and support needs of parents and children***
- ***Assessment of children's attachment relationships and their sibling relationships***
- ***Capacity & Cognitive Assessments***
- ***Assessment of fitness to plead***
- ***Assessment of Autism Spectrum Disorder in both adults and children***

Prof Davis has supplied evidence admissible to a range of court settings including Magistrates and Family Courts and has attended relevant training courses to undertake this.

Prof Davis has acted as an expert in psychological proceedings since 1995 and is a checked Expert Witness in the Expert Witness Directory 2017.

HCPC - PYL03456



## **Jason Solomons Registered Clinical Psychologist**

### **Adult, Child & Family Assessments**

Mr Jason Solomons is an HCPC Registered Clinical Psychologist with 12 years of specialised experience working with children, young people and parents in a wide range of contexts (NHS, local authority, independent services and education). Jason's qualifications include a first class BSc Honours Degree in Psychology (University of Cape Town) and a Masters Degree in Clinical Psychology with distinction (University of Cape Town).

Jason is a qualified registered user of a wide range of psychometric instruments assessing intelligence, personality, mental health and trauma in children and adults. Jason's continuing professional development in recent years has included training in attachment theory and intervention, parenting capacity and personality disorder, safeguarding children, and training in Multi-Dimensional Treatment Foster Care. He has also completed training in Dialectical Behaviour Therapy through DBT British Isles and he has completed courses in Mentalisation Based Family Therapy and Mentalisation Based Treatment for Adolescents with the Anna Freud Centre.

The majority of Jason's experience has included specialising in working with children and young people with a history of trauma, neglect and abuse (sexual/physical/emotional). He has worked as a National Site Consultant for the National Implementation Service at the Maudsley Hospital, where he provided consultation to teams across the UK on evidence-based treatment for Looked After Children. He has also worked as a Clinical Lead for a Multi-Dimensional Treatment Foster Care programme - which involved leading a therapeutic programme for Looked After Children on the edge of residential care.

In addition Jason has worked as a Regional Clinical Team Lead for Cambian Group's Sexual Abuse Child Consultancy Services (SACCS), where he oversaw the clinical provision for a number of specialist therapeutic residential placements for children and adolescents with a history of sexual abuse, neglect, trauma and sexual exploitation. He has also worked as a highly specialist Clinical Psychologist with Looked After Children in a Local Authority placement support team, providing specialist assessment, interventions and consultation for children and young people in the care system. Jason has also held the role of Clinical Lead for a CAMHS Intensive Outreach team, working with young people suffering from self-harm, suicidality, anxiety, conduct problems, depression and eating disorders.

Jason currently works as a registered clinical psychologist in independent practice undertaking expert witness work for the family courts assessing children, parents and families in Care Proceedings. He also has an independent clinical practice undertaking assessment and therapeutic work with children and families with a range of emotional, developmental and mental health difficulties. This includes screening for ADHD, autism spectrum disorder, and therapeutic work for problems associated





with trauma, attachment problems, anxiety, depression, self-harm, and eating disorders.

Jason has delivered training to social workers, mental health professionals, psychiatrists and teachers in a variety of topics, including: attachment, trauma, abuse, parenting, child development and the assessment of children with complex and challenging behaviours. He has trained foster carers and parents in a variety of parent training and therapeutic care models, including the Webster Stratton Parenting programme, AdOpt, and Multi-Dimensional Treatment Foster Care. Jason has also provided presentations at professional conferences and academic meetings on a variety of topics, such as evidence-based therapeutic interventions with children in care, attachment, the assessment of risk factors in child and adolescent development, and working with young people with a history of self-harm.

Within the context of Family Proceedings and Private Law disputes, Jason specialises in instructions relating to:

### ***Assessment of Children***

- **The nature of a child's attachment relationships including sibling relationships**
- **Harm suffered by children or risk of future harm with respect to neglect and/or abuse (physical, sexual and emotional)**
- **Assessment of the effects on children of parental issues (domestic violence, substance misuse, mental health)**
- **Therapeutic and support needs of children**
- **Placement needs of children following a Care Order, including whether siblings should be placed together or apart**
- **Assessment of appropriateness of a child's foster or residential placement**
- **Cognitive assessments**
- **Childhood mental health (depression, anxiety, ASD, ADHD and others)**
- **Sexualised behaviour, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation**
- **Story Stem Work**

### ***Assessment of Adults***

- **Parenting capacity – ability to parent, protect, work with professionals and motivation to change**
- **Therapeutic and support needs of parents, prospect of change and likely timescales**
- **Parenting intervention suggestions and timescales**
- **Mental Health Assessments inc. domestic violence, drugs and alcohol**
- **Personality Assessments**
- **Cognitive Assessments**

### ***Assessment of Families***

- **Attachment**
- **Family functioning and family dynamics**
- **Placement and therapeutic needs of children in complex Residence/Contact disputes involving alleged parental alienation**



## Nigel Blagg Associates

Adult & Child Psychology Expert Witnesses

Jason Solomons is DBS checked and holds Personal Professional Indemnity Insurance. HCPC ~ PLY24740



## **Dr Richard Budd Chartered Psychologist & Registered Clinical Psychologist**

### **Adult Assessments**

Dr Budd has over 20 years experience as a clinical psychologist. He currently works in full-time private practice, providing: therapy for a broad range of mental health problems (e.g. PTSD, depression, etc.) and personality disorders; training and consultation on case formulation and risk assessment; clinical supervision; expert evidence in family, civil and criminal law cases.

During his professional practise, Dr Budd has worked in a variety of settings, including: a 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisation which supports homeless individuals and families; community mental health teams; low/medium secure psychiatric hospitals and psychiatric intensive care units; family intervention teams and psychiatric day hospitals. These roles have involved Dr Budd in: providing assessment and treatment of drug and alcohol problems, mental illness and personality disorder; assessing mental capacity and risk, and advising on risk management. This has included working with: adults with serious mental illness (e.g. schizophrenia) and their carers; adults with mild learning difficulties; single parents and families whose children are on the risk register; schedule 1 offenders; individuals who have been separated from their children due to the risk of child neglect/abuse, domestic violence, anti-social behaviour and chaotic/repeat offending.

The above roles have involved Dr Budd in: providing staff training, consultation and supervision; liaising with statutory services (e.g. the Police, Probation, Social Services, etc.); contributing to risk management, mental capacity assessment and case formulation, in: Child Protection Case Conferences; Multi-Agency Public Protection (MAPPA) meetings; Care Programme Approach (CPA) reviews.

Dr Budd is chartered with the British Psychological Society (BPS), of which he is an Associate Fellow and a full member of the Division of Clinical Psychology. He has a BSc (Special Honours) and a PhD in Psychology from the University of Sheffield, and an MSc in Clinical Psychology. He is registered with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC).

He is listed on the BPS Register of Qualifications in Test Use, and is registered to use a range of psychometric tests and clinical measures for assessing intelligence





and memory, personality and psychopathology in adults. He has completed training in the HCR-20 and SVR-20, structured professional judgement tools for assessing the risk of physical and sexual violence.

He has published extensively in peer reviewed journals and presented papers at academic conferences on a variety of topics, including drug use. He has developed a number of widely used psychometric tests (e.g. the 15FQ+, the Jung Type Indicator, etc.).

Dr Budd participates in ongoing professional development related to his clinical and forensic work, having attended, amongst others, the following courses: Assessing Adults in Family Law Proceedings - Ives Drucquer Associates Ltd; National Drug Conference – Health Promotion Wales; Motivational Interviewing (for alcohol problems) – Dr Tina Alwen, UWIC; Assessment and Treatment of Drug and Alcohol Problems – Jannus Training; HCR-20/SVR-20 Training – Profs Nicola Gray and Robert Snowdon; Presentation by the Chair of the local MAPPA committee on MAPPA and MAPPP; Presenting Evidence in Court – Prof R Young.

Within the context of **Family Proceedings** and **Private Law Cases** Dr Budd takes instructions relating to the assessment of:

- ***Personality disorder, mental illness and alcohol/drug misuse and its impact on parenting and the parent's ability to protect***
- ***The risk of domestic violence***
- ***The risk of sexual violence***
- ***Mental capacity***
- ***The therapeutic and support needs of parents, their capacity to change and the likely timescale for that change***
- ***PTSD, depression, anxiety and phobias in personal injury cases***

HCPC # PYL03099

CRB # 001404212800



## **Carol Franzen Chartered Psychologist & Registered Educational Psychologist**

### **Adult, Child & Family Assessments**

Carol Franzen is a Chartered Psychologist with more than 20 years educational and clinical experience working with adults, children and families in multi professional settings.

Her qualifications include a B.A Honours Degree in Psychology (University of Warwick), a Certificate in Education (University of London) and a Masters degree in Educational Psychology (University of Wales). She has also received training in Cognitive Behaviour Therapy and training as an expert witness in family law. She is a qualified and registered user of a portfolio of psychometric tests and clinical procedures for assessing intelligence, personality, trauma symptomatology and psychopathology in both adults and children. Carol has a longstanding interest in the assessment of Autism and chaired a multi-disciplinary team in the assessment of Autism and produced guidelines for the Local Authority in both the assessment and provision for children and young people with Autistic Spectrum Disorders.

Carol is Chartered with the British Psychological Society (BPS) and is an Associate Fellow of the BPS. She is registered with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC).

Carol participates in ongoing professional training relating to child abuse/safeguarding issues. She has received specific training on helping troubled children speak about their feelings and has attended numerous courses on numerous psychological subjects including most recently dynamic assessment, attachment disorders, neuroscience of autism and the use of positive psychology as an approach to behavioural change. She recently completed training in the HCR-20, a structured assessment tool to assess risk of future violence.

During her career as a Psychologist Carol has worked closely with parents, teachers, Social Workers and health professionals in the assessment, management and treatment of children and adolescents with a wide range of special needs including sensory deficits, physical disabilities, learning and developmental problems and emotional and behavioural disorders. As a Principal Educational Psychologist Carol was responsible for the development of guidance on working with children and families experiencing domestic violence and for children who have experienced death and trauma. She was also a member of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health strategy group and participated in the development of a multi professional assessment



clinic for ADHD; an intervention team to support families and children with severe learning difficulties and challenging behaviour and a consultative team for the carers of adopted and fostered children. Carol has also contributed to the analysis of social care issues and serious case reviews. In addition she held the strategic lead within the Local Authority for behaviour and inclusion and managed the teams responsible for PRUs and the education of behaviourally challenging young people. She has spoken nationally on working with disaffected young people.

Carol accepts instructions as an Expert Witness to the court within **Family Proceedings** and **Private law Disputes** on a range of assessment issues concerning **adults** and **children** including:

- ***Parenting ability, adult learning disability, personality disorder/ dysfunction and mental health and impact of alcohol/drug misuse***
- ***Relationship issues and family dynamics including impact of domestic violence and / or substance misuse***
- ***Harm suffered by children or risk of future harm with respect to neglect and / or abuse (including emotional, sexual or physical)***
- ***The nature of a child's attachment and sibling relationships and the impact of separation, contact and loss.***
- ***Therapeutic and support needs of parents and children, prospect of change and the likely timescale for change.***
- ***Placement needs of children following a Care Order including whether siblings should be placed together or separately and the nature and extent of contact with the birth family.***
- ***Resilience and levels of vulnerability and the ability of the child or parent to cope with neglect, trauma and change.***
- ***Challenging and dysfunctional behaviour in children and adolescents including ADHD & PICA.***
- ***Children's special educational needs including Dyslexia, Autism and communication disorders and their impact on relationships and learning.***

Carol has given evidence in the Family Court on many occasions and is listed as a checked Expert Witness in the Directory of Expert Witnesses 2017.

HCPC – PYL 06349

CRB – 001349742154



## **Dr Chris Hobson Chartered Psychologist & Registered Clinical Psychologist**

### **Adult Assessments**

Dr Hobson currently works for Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust / Cardiff University as a Senior Clinical Tutor, and in private practice (mainly conducting independent expert legal assessments). The Senior Clinical Tutor role involves appraisal, supervision of research, and teaching in relation to the training of doctoral-level trainee Clinical Psychologists. Teaching and/or research interests include mental capacity, the impact of early environment on the development of later emotional and behavioural problems, treatment of those in forensic settings, forensic risk assessment, personality disorder, Attachment Theory, and Mentalization Based Treatment. For the past 5 years, he has provided independent expert evidence in family, civil and criminal law cases, and for the Parole Board.

Previously, Dr Hobson worked for Avon and Wiltshire NHS Trust as Clinical Lead for a Personality Disorder assessment and treatment service for high risk offenders in a women's prison (2014-2016) and was a specialist Clinical Psychologist at Llanarth Court Hospital (2010-2016), which involved the assessment and treatment of patients detained under the Mental Health Act (1983). As part of his current and previous roles, he has carried out many comprehensive assessments of risk, mental disorder (including psychosis, depression, anxiety, PTSD, substance abuse, and personality disorders) and cognitive function. He has particularly developed expertise in assessing and treating those who have histories of complex trauma and early disrupted attachments, as well as those who have committed violent offences and/or offences against children (including physical and sexual abuse, and neglect).

Before training as a Clinical Psychologist, he worked as a researcher at the Institute of Psychiatry (2004-2007) on clinical trials of The Incredible Years parenting programme for children's behaviour problems, where he conducted many assessments of parents and their children covering parenting quality, attachment, and children's cognitive, emotional and behavioural development. During this role, he completed a Ph.D which examined the neuropsychological deficits related to adolescent behaviour problems, and the relationship between the early home environment (e.g., physical maltreatment, observed mother-child interactions, and maternal depression) and later functioning. As well as his Ph.D, he has an undergraduate degree in Psychology from St. Andrews University, a Masters in Forensic Psychology from Kent University, and a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Royal Holloway University. He is chartered with the British



Psychological Society (BPS) and registered with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC).

Dr Hobson participates in ongoing professional development related to his clinical, forensic and expert witness work, having attended, amongst others, the following courses: Personality Disorder and Parenting (Anna Freud Centre), EMDR Therapy (Parts 1-4; EMDR Works), Mentalisation-Based Treatment (Basic and Advanced; Anna Freud Centre), The Psychological Expert in Criminal Cases (Carter Brown), Family Court Skills Training (Ives Drucquer / Carter Brown), HCR-20 Risk of Violence Assessment Version 3 (Partnerships in Care), SVR-20 and RSVP Risk of Sexual Violence Assessments (Professors Gray and Snowdon), Hare Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R; Professor Jane Ireland), International Personality Disorder Examination (IPDE; Partnerships in Care), MCMI-III Personality Assessment (Partnerships in Care), Child Attachment Interview administration (Anna Freud Centre), Psychodynamic Group Process Training (National Offender Personality Disorder Pathway) and the Webster Stratton Parent Training Trainers Course (Institute of Psychiatry).

Within the context of **Family Proceedings** and **Private Law Cases** Dr Hobson takes instructions relating to the assessment of:

- ***Personality disorder, learning disability, mental illness and substance misuse and its impact on parenting and the parent's ability to protect***
- ***The impact of an adult's early experiences on their ability to meet the emotional needs of a child***
- ***Relationship and family dynamics including impact of domestic violence and / or substance misuse***
- ***The risk of domestic violence***
- ***The risk of sexual and physical violence***
- ***Mental capacity***
- ***The therapeutic and support needs of parents, their capacity to change and the likely timescale for that change***
- ***Placement and therapeutic needs of children in complex Residence/Contact disputes involving alleged parental alienation***

Within the context of Criminal Law Cases, Dr Hobson takes instructions involving:

- ***The psychological assessment of adults (neuropsychological and cognitive assessment, personality, mental illness, substance abuse and structured risk assessment)***
- ***Fitness to Plead or Stand Trial***
- ***Sentencing (mitigating factors, ability to cope / suitability for prison, treatment needs)***

HCPC Registered & Enhanced DBS Certificate





## **Dr Daniel Sheehan Chartered Psychologist & Registered Educational Psychologist**

### **Adult, Child & Family Assessments**

Dr Daniel Sheehan has more than 20 years educational and clinical experience working with adults, children and families in multi-professional settings. He is a Chartered Psychologist with the British Psychological Society (BPS 253607), a member of the Association of Educational Psychologists (AEP 105500) and is registered with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC PYL32127).

His qualifications include a BSc Honours Degree in Psychology (University of Bath Spa), a Master's degree in Applied Neuropsychology (University of Bath Spa) and a Doctorate in Child, Educational and Community Psychology (University of Exeter). He is also currently undertaking post-doctoral study in Existential Psychotherapy.

Dr Sheehan is a qualified and registered user of a portfolio of psychometric tests and clinical procedures for assessing intelligence, personality functioning and mental health in both children and adults. He has also trained to use a number of specialist assessment tools designed for children and adults with complex communication and social interaction difficulties, the assessment of families with complex difficulties and children and adults in neuro-rehabilitative settings.

Dr Sheehan participates in ongoing professional training relating to safeguarding issues for both children and vulnerable adults. He has received specific training on systemic work with children and families (including working with children who are the subject of Local Authority Care Orders) and has attended a wide range of courses on a variety of psychological approaches, including the use of a wide range of dynamic assessment tests.

During his career as a Psychologist he has worked closely with parents, teachers, Social Workers and health professionals in the assessment, management and treatment of children, adolescents and adults with a wide range of special needs including sensory deficits, physical disabilities, learning and developmental problems and emotional and behavioural disorders. He has experience in working directly with troubled young people; with offenders and those at risk of offending; with children who have suffered abuse, neglect and/or substantial trauma in their lives; with young people at risk of sexual exploitation and/or engaging in sexually-harmful behaviours; and, with children and young people experiencing attachment difficulties.



Prior to qualifying as a psychologist, Dr Sheehan was employed for five years to provide specialist support for degree students with autistic spectrum challenges at Bridgwater College. He also spent two years as part of a team in Somerset offering residential care for children and young people with complex care needs, including those who presented severe and persistent patterns of self-harm and extreme risk-taking behaviours. These children and young people had generally been brought up in chaotic and abusive settings and had experienced multiple challenges.

Dr Sheehan also worked for ten years in neuro-rehabilitation, in South Australia and in the North of England. Working with children who had experienced spinal injuries and adults with acquired brain injuries, he used a range of play-based tools and non-verbal communication resources (some of which he designed himself), to explore issues of identity, anxiety, self-determination and cognitive functioning; as well as standardized psychometric assessments, to provide additional data on speech and language functioning, literacy and numeracy skills and cognitive abilities.

Dr Sheehan has an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Certificate, number 001 505 168 255.



## **Dr Mattie Idema-Trehan Chartered Psychologist & Registered Clinical Psychologist**

### **Adult, Child & Family Assessments**

Dr Idema-Trehan is a Chartered Psychologist with 19 years experience of assessment and treatment of children, adolescents, families, and adults in the NHS. Her qualifications include a BSc Honours Degree in Psychology, an MSc in Clinical and Community Psychology, awarded by Exeter University and a PhD in Adolescent Identity Development, awarded by Cardiff University. She has furthermore undertaken post-qualification training in the areas of psychological therapies such as Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, Supportive Psychotherapy for individuals as well as families.

Dr Idema-Trehan is Chartered with the British Psychological Society (BPS) and a member of the the BPS Division of Clinical Psychology and Faculty of Child Psychology. She is also registered with the Health & Care and Professions Council (HCPC).

Dr Idema-Trehan's NHS work has been mainly in the field of Child and Family and in Learning Disabilities. In the field of Child and Family services, she was Head of Clinical Psychology services, providing a range of individual, family and systems interventions in the field of Paediatrics, Youth Offending Teams, Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS), and Fostering and Adoption Services.

Dr Idema-Trehan has extensive experience of working with children who present complex challenges within the care system, as well as in assessing and supporting parents and carers to improve parenting skills, attachment bonds and family relationships. She uses an integrative approach to assessment, formulation and intervention, drawing on a variety of psychological models, theory and research as well as a variety of psychotherapeutic approaches, including Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, Family/Systems Therapy and Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy.

Prior to her move into full time independent practice in 2007, Dr Idema-Trehan was Clinical Psychologist in a Community Learning Disabilities Service, responsible for training, consultation and supervision to a range of professions and agencies, as well as providing an eclectic assessment and treatment service to clients and carers. She specialised in assessment,



treatment and the development of multi-disciplinary community services to support clients with personality disorder, offending behaviour and persistent self-harm.

Dr Idema-Trehan has recently taken up a Consultant Clinical Psychology post in Shropshire, as part of an integrated Therapeutic service for young people who present a challenge to the care system. Within this therapeutic service, which is largely informed by Attachment Theory, she provides assessment, individual therapy and consultancy to staff teams.

Dr Idema-Trehan has acted as a single joint expert within **Family Proceedings** and **Private Law disputes** since 1994. She accepts instructions with respect to children and adults on a wide range of issues, including:

She is qualified to use a portfolio of psychometric assessments and clinical procedures assessing intelligence, personality, trauma symptomatology psychopathology in adults and children. She has also completed training in the HCR-20, a structured risk assessment tool to explore factors linked to risk of future violence.

- **Assessment of parenting ability with respect to childhood and personal history, learning disabilities and personality disorder, mental health, substance misuse, anger management and sexual boundaries / abuse**
- **Assessment of family dynamics and relationship issues including domestic violence**
- **Assessment of harm suffered by children or risk of future harm with respect to neglect and / or abuse (including emotional, sexual or physical)**
- **Assessment of attachment issues, separation and loss and sibling relationships**
- **Assessment of the therapeutic and support needs of parents and / or children**
- **Assessment of the prospect of change and the likely timescale for that change**
- **Children's special educational needs including Autism and communication disorders and their impact on relationships and learning.**

Dr Idema-Trehan is CRB Checked and is listed as a checked Expert Witness in the Directory of Expert Witnesses 2017. She has given evidence in court on many occasions and has attended relevant training courses to undertake this.

HCPC – PLY17173

CRB – 001346778461



## Hilary Tobin

### Psychologist & Integrative Psychotherapist

#### Adult Assessments

Hilary Tobin is a Psychologist and Integrative Psychotherapist with more than 20 years clinical experience in working with adults and families within multi-professional settings.

Her qualifications include a four year BSc Honours Degree in Applied Psychology (University of Wales), four years training as a psychotherapist (Advanced Transactional Analysis in Clinical Application) and a Diploma in Supervision and Mentoring (accredited by the European Association for Supervision and Coaching). Hilary Tobin is also fully trained in Eye Movement Desensitisation and Re-Processing (EMDR) therapy which is increasingly recognised as a highly effective treatment for post traumatic stress and other trauma related psychological symptoms. Hilary Tobin is a Graduate Member of the British Psychological Society (BPS), a Member of the British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) and a Member of EMDR UK.

Hilary is trained in the administration and use of a wide range of psychometric measures, including assessments of intelligence, anger pathology, personality, trauma symptomatology, mental health and behavioural functioning in adults. She has also recently completed training in the HCR-20, a structured risk assessment tool to explore factors linked to risk of future violence.

Hilary Tobin initially trained as a counsellor specialising in short term crisis counselling and has continued to work in this capacity on a sessional basis within the NHS. For 5 years she worked full-time with the Avalon Health Trust as part of the Learning Disabilities Team where she administered psychometric tests and specialised in psychotherapy and the development of programmes for people with learning disabilities focusing especially on sex education and relationships. She was also part of a multidisciplinary Family Therapy team.

On leaving the NHS, Hilary Tobin managed a residential unit for adults with mild to moderate learning disabilities before establishing a private therapy practice offering counselling and treatment for individuals, couples and





families. She has considerable experience of working with women who have been sexually traumatised in their child or adult years and has co-authored a book for women survivors of sexual abuse.

Hilary Tobin uses an integrative approach to assessment, formulation and intervention, drawing on a variety of psychological models, theory and research as well as a range of psychotherapeutic approaches, including Transactional Analysis, Family/Systems Therapy and Cognitive Behavioural Therapy.

*Hilary Tobin participates in ongoing professional training related to Child Protection issues and therapeutic intervention. For example, in recent years she has attended courses concerned with parenting and personality disorder, the impact of childhood trauma on adult attachment relationships, the impact of new developments in neuroscience on psychotherapy, working with patients who have a learning disability, the impact of domestic violence and substance misuse on parenting and the use of risk assessment tools in disputed child abuse cases.*

Since joining Nigel Blagg Associates in 1997, Hilary Tobin has jointly undertaken more than 250 clinical assessments of parents within **Family Proceedings** and **Private Law disputes** on a range of issues including:

- ***Psychological assessment of adults – with respect to learning disability, personality & mental health, substance misuse***
- ***Assessment of parenting ability and capacity - with respect to childhood and personal history, learning disabilities, mental health, misuse of alcohol and / or illegal substances, anger management, family dynamics, domestic violence, sexual boundaries / abuse***
- ***Assessment of family dynamics and relationship issues including domestic violence***
- ***Assessment of the therapeutic and support needs of parents***
- ***Assessment of the prospect of change and the likely timescale for that change***

Hilary Tobin has given evidence in Court on many occasions and is listed as a checked Expert Witness in the Directory of Expert Witnesses 2017. She is DBS Checked and holds Personal Professional Indemnity Insurance. CRB – 001486554766 (14.05.2015)



## **Jamila Begum Chartered Psychologist & Registered Educational & Forensic Psychologist**

### **Adult, Child & Family Assessments**

Ms Begum is a Chartered Psychologist with the British Psychological Society (BPS) and an Associate Fellow of the BPS. She is dual registered as an Educational and Forensic Psychologist with the Health and Care Professionals Council (HCPC: PLY00054). She has Chartered Scientist Status from the Science Council's Directory of Chartered Scientist.

Ms Begum has 20 years of experience practicing as a Psychologist in multi professional settings and has over 15 years of experience as an Expert Witness. She has written reports on children, adolescents and families for Magistrates, Family, Criminal, County Court and the High Court. She has also given oral evidence on multiple occasions either directly or through video link. She has also produced reports for Special Educational Needs Tribunals and for Immigration Tribunals.

Ms Begum's qualifications include a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Post Graduate Certificate in Education, Masters in Educational Psychology (University of Birmingham) and Masters of Science in Applied Forensic Psychology (University of Leicester). Ms Begum has gained BPS Certificates of Competence in Psychological Testing. She is qualified to use psychometrics to assess cognitive ability, social and emotional functioning, personality and mental health needs of children, adolescents and adults. She has also successfully completed Cardiff University Law School Bond Solon Expert Witness Certificate in 2012.

Ms Begum regularly undertakes professional development training related to child abuse and child protection and safeguarding. She is member of BASCPAN (British Association for the Study and Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect). She has attended numerous courses on the risk factors to parenting and child abuse including alcohol and drug misuse, personality disorder and Learning Disability. She has also attended courses on Attachment and has presented training to professionals in Early Years settings and to social workers on positive parenting and remediating attachment relationships following abuse.

Ms Begum has a keen interest in trauma and has attended courses organised by Oxford Trauma Center on understanding and working with complex trauma. She has also completed EMDR (Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing) training - which is an evidence based therapeutic approach that can be used with victims of trauma. She also has knowledge of integrative therapy and has attended courses on Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, Solution Focused Brief Therapy and Personal Construct Psychology and has used this as a therapeutic approach with children and young people with positive outcomes.

Since qualifying in 1996 as a psychologist from University of Birmingham, Ms Begum has worked with children, adolescents conducting a diverse range of assessments in the



education and forensic field of psychology. She has 20 years experience conducting assessments of children and young people presenting with a complex array of needs from learning difficulty, to social, emotional and behavioural difficulties. This also included assessing children and young people with developmental disorders and diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder, and Oppositional Defiant Disorder as well children and young people with acquired brain injury and various medical conditions. She has also assessed and provided therapeutic input to children and young people who have experienced anxiety, depression and also trauma arising from bereavement, loss, abuse and neglect. She has advised Court on cases involving PTSD (Post-traumatic Stress Disorder) arising from familial homicide. She has also conducted assessments in which the cultural component 'honour' has been an integral part of family disputes and considered this in case formulation.

Ms Begum's work with adults started in January 1999 when she secured a position within Social Services as a Specialist Psychologist conducting forensic, child, adolescents and family assessments and providing consultancy and training to Child Protection professionals. A significant amount of work comprised Court directed risk assessments of adults/parents who were offenders or non-convicted but displaying risky behaviours in relation to children in their care. This included adults/parents who misused drugs and alcohol, those with diagnosed mental health problems and/or personality disorders and/or parents with significant learning disability. In addition, she was required to assess adults convicted of violent and/or sexual offences and parental risk.

Ms Begum has also conducted risk assessment of young offenders and has been requested to address issues of suggestibility and compliance to assist Criminal Court in decision making with sentencing.

From November 2001 to August 2003, Ms Begum integrated into the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAHMS) division within Social Services conducting multidisciplinary assessments and Court directed Expert Witness work with children, adolescents and adults/family. Since then she has continued working independently as an Expert Witness across the country.

Ms Begum has provided supervision to Trainee Psychologists, was an Honorary Tutor at the University of Birmingham from 2005-2008 and a Regional Tutor on the Post graduate course on SEBD (Social and Emotional Behaviour Difficulties) at the University of Birmingham from October 2012-September 2014.

Within the context of Family Proceedings and Private Law disputes Ms Begum specializes in instructions relating to the assessment of:

- ***Parenting ability, adult learning disability, personality disorder and mental health and impact of alcohol and drug misuse***
- ***Adult attachment style, relationship issues and family dynamics including impact of domestic violence and / or substance misuse***
- ***Harm suffered by children or risk of future harm with respect to neglect and / or abuse (including emotional, sexual or physical)***
- ***Adults and children in cases where the cultural component 'honour' has been an integral part of family disputes***



- ***Therapeutic and support needs of parents and / or children, prospect of change and the likely timescale for that change***
- ***Placement needs of children following a Care Order, including whether siblings should be placed together or separately and the nature and extent of contact with the birth family.***

More recent instructions have included:

- ***Assessment of Attachment in a family (parental and sibling) with disclosure of reported family perpetrated abuse***
- ***Harm suffered by children or risk of future harm with respect to neglect and / or abuse (including emotional, sexual or physical)***
- ***Parenting Intervention suggestions and timescales for change***
- ***Assessment of appropriateness of child placement***
- ***Therapeutic and support needs of parents and children, prospect of change and the likely timescale for change.***
- ***Relationship issues and family dynamics including impact of domestic violence***
- ***Post Traumatic Stress Assessments of children following homicide of parent***
- ***Identification of Attachment Disorder resulting in Adoptive Placement breakdown.***

Ms Begum has been CRB checked (001435745414).



## **Jayne Stallard Chartered Psychologist & Registered Educational Psychologist**

### **Adult, Child & Family Assessments**

Jayne Stallard is a Chartered Psychologist who has worked with children and families in a range of care, educational, clinical and multi-professional settings for more than 25 years.

Her qualifications include a BA Honours Degree in Developmental Psychology (University of Sussex), a Certificate in Education (West London Institute), a Master of Arts Degree in Educational and Child Psychology (University of Nottingham) and a Master of Philosophy Degree in Applied Psychology (University of Nottingham).

Jayne is a Chartered Psychologist with the British Psychological Society (BPS), an Associate Fellow of the BPS, and a member of the Child and Educational Psychology and Qualitative Research Divisions of the BPS. She is also registered with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) as an Educational Psychologist.

Jayne is a qualified and registered user of a portfolio of psychometric tests and clinical procedures for assessing intelligence, educational progress and needs, personality, and mental health in both children and adults.

Jayne undertakes regular professional development through training, conference attendance and literature searches related to child protection and safeguarding, and to parenting and adult functioning. Additionally she has gained the Bond Solon/Cardiff University Certificate as an Expert Witness in Family Law and Procedures. Jayne is a trained and experienced practitioner in the use of solution focused brief therapy; a positive and strengths based approach to moving forward in areas that have been experienced as highly problematic. Recent professional development activity has focused on the impact of violence and trauma on adults and children, assessing attachment, sibling relationships, mental health in children and young people, working with high risk families, supervising to safeguard and completing the ADOS-2 and ADI-R training in assessment of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Jayne has also acted in an advisory capacity to the Government on promoting the mental health and psychological well being of children and developing guidance for professionals supporting children and families. Jayne has developed and delivered training on multi-professional working, solution focused brief therapy, attachment, family dynamics, parenting, early identification of need, mental health in children and young people, self-harming behaviour and evidence based intervention. She was also involved in devising and delivering an attachment module for the nurture group course at Leicester University.

Prior to training as an applied psychologist, Jayne worked in a psychiatric unit in a Children's Hospital as part of a multi-professional team delivering family therapy in





addition to individual support. She then trained as a teacher and worked with children in rural and inner city schools

for 9 years before undertaking further training to become an Applied Psychologist. On qualifying as a Child and Educational Psychologist, Jayne specialised in working with children with emotional and behavioural difficulties and supporting their parents and teachers. As a local authority educational psychologist Jayne has held senior practitioner, specialist senior and senior educational psychologist posts. Jayne worked as an independent educational psychologist between 2004 and 2013 and has most recently worked as an educational psychologist and professional lead for mental health in education for the States of Jersey, leaving this post in August 2016 to return to independent working.

Jayne provides assessments and therapeutic services to adults and children on a wide range of psychological issues. Within the context of in the context of **Family Proceedings** and **Private Law Disputes** she has provided Expert Witness services since 2007 and has specialised in assessments of adults and children on a range of issues, including:

- ***Placement and therapeutic needs of children in complex Residence/Contact disputes involving alleged parental alienation***
- ***Assessment of Autism Spectrum Disorder in both adults and children***
- ***Parenting ability, adult learning disability, personality and mental health, impact of substance misuse and domestic violence***
- ***Family dynamics, relationship issues, parenting and capacity to change***
- ***Psychological and emotional development and needs in children and young people who have experienced trauma, loss, neglect and abuse***
- ***Attachment, sibling relationships and contact/placement considerations following a Care Order***
- ***Therapeutic and support needs of children and their parents or carers.***
- ***The special educational needs of children and young people***
- ***Challenging and troubled behaviour in children and young people***

Jayne has provided over 100 reports for the Family Court and is experienced in giving oral evidence.

HCPC – PYL23627  
DBS – 001428149159



## **Julia Long**

### **Chartered Psychologist & Registered Forensic Psychologist**

### **Adult, Child & Family Assessments**

Julia Long is a Chartered Psychologist with over 20 years experience of assessment and treatment of adults and adolescents within the context of her work with the Home Office/Ministry of Justice. She has worked in High and Low Security settings as well in the community.

Her qualifications include a B.A. Honours Degree in Psychology and a Master of Science in Applied Criminological Psychology. She has completed post-graduate training in Group Analytic Psychotherapy and in delivery of a range of Cognitive Behavioural Treatment interventions including those intended for serious violent and sexually violent offenders.

Ms Long is Chartered with the British Psychological Society (BPS), an Associate Fellow of the BPS and is also a member of the BPS Division of Forensic Psychologists and the International Association for Correctional and Forensic Psychology. She is fully accredited by the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) as a Forensic Psychologist Practitioner.

Ms Long is trained in the use of a range of structured clinical assessments of risk for future harm. These include the SVR-20, HCR-20, VRS, RSVP, SAVRY, VRAG and RM2000. She has undertaken further training in the assessment of domestic or intimate partner abuse and in the assessment of personality disorder. She is an accredited user of the PCL-R tool and is qualified to use a portfolio of psychometric assessments and clinical procedures for both adults and children.

Her work with the Ministry of Justice centred on the provision of defensible and reliable risk assessment reports and the delivery of treatment/ rehabilitation interventions for a range of offenders (males, females and adolescents). She has historically specialised in providing psychological therapy to personality disordered and other, complex offenders. She has also provided consultancy and advice on risk assessments and psychological treatment needs to Ministers with respect to these issues in her role as a Head of Casework within the National Offender Management Service of the Ministry of Justice. She has produced over 400 risk assessment reports and has been instrumental in the development of a widely used structured clinical judgement tool for sexual offenders within H M Prison Service. She has also represented the Secretary of State in adversarial legal proceedings on over 50 occasions. She was seconded to the Parole Board for England and Wales as their Head of Quality Unit to advise on issues pertaining to risk assessment and accreditation of Parole Board Members.



Ms Long has provided consultancy and delivered training in risk assessment for the Independent Safeguarding Authority. She was commended for her work in producing a risk assessment framework for the ISA Board, which is now used nationally to make decisions about whether individuals who have no known history of convictions should be permitted to work with children and vulnerable adults. She has worked with individuals in the community and provided specialist independent psychological reports to the ISA Board. Issues of child protection and work with vulnerable adults have formed a key element to this work and she has undertaken additional training in this respect.

Ms Long has worked in private practice as a Psychologist since 2009/10. She undertakes on average 30 instructions per year and further instructions as a specialist provider with the ISA.

*Ms Long* recently completed ADOS-2 and ADI-R training which are the gold standard tools for the assessment of Autism Spectrum Disorder in children and adults.

Ms Long specialises in the assessment of adults and children in the context of Family Proceedings and in more general Forensic issues (risk assessment, Parole Board reviews, pre-sentencing reports, psychopathology assessments). Recent instructions have encompassed:

- ***Assessment of risk of harm in cases of non-accidental injury***
- ***Assessment of impact of substance abuse on parenting capacity***
- ***Assessment of appropriateness of child placement***
- ***Contact recommendations***
- ***Risk of recidivism (offences: sexual and violent)***
- ***Assessment of attachment in a family (parental and sibling) with disclosure of reported family perpetrated abuse***
- ***Psychopathology assessments in adults and children***
- ***Recommendations in respect of mother and baby placements***
- ***Parenting assessments***
- ***Ability to protect a child from domestic abuse***
- ***Assessment of risk of future abusive relationships***
- ***Parenting interventions and suggestions and timescales for change***
- ***Assessment of Autism Spectrum Disorder in both adults and children***

Ms Long is regularly required to contribute to the process of Parole Board Reviews, Immigration Detention Tribunals and Family Court proceedings as an Expert Witness and she is listed as a checked Expert Witness in the Directory of Expert Witnesses 2017.

HCPC – PYL06050

CRB – 001423564460



## **Kate Seward Chartered Psychologist & Registered Forensic Psychologist**

### **Adult Assessments**

Ms Seward is a Registered Psychologist Practitioner with the Health Care Professions Council (HCPC). She is Chartered with the British Psychological Society as well as an Associate Fellow and member of the Division of Forensic Psychology. She is also a Chartered Scientist. Her qualifications include a BA (Hons) in Psychology (University of Swansea), MSc in Applied Forensic Psychology (Leicester). She has also undertaken a wide range of professional training.

Ms Seward has 13 years experience in the assessment and treatment of adults. She has expertise in risk assessment of those who pose a risk of violence towards adults and children, risk of sexual violence towards adults and children and risk of domestic violence. She also has expertise in the assessment of substance misuse, general criminality, cognitive functioning, parenting risk, personality disorder and psychopathy. Ms Seward is experienced in the treatment of individuals presenting with concerning sexual or violent behaviour, poor coping, problem solving and trauma.

Ms Seward worked for the National Offender Manager Service for 12 years undertaking custody, community and area based roles. She has provided consultancy services to the Probation Service and Social Services. Ms Seward has written comprehensive risk assessment reports for these agencies and appeared as an expert witness in Parole Board Hearings for 10 years.

Ms Seward is a psychologist member of The Parole Board, responsible for assisting the board in evaluating the risk posed by violent and sexual offenders and their suitability for progression and potential release. She also currently provides a consultancy service to Northern Ireland Prison Service relating to the treatment and management of males who pose a risk of serious violence. She also engages in trauma therapy with adults.

Ms Seward has undertaken extensive training in the assessment and treatment of sexual and violent behaviour, in addition to other areas such as psychopathy, personality disorder, and trauma. She is trained and experienced in the use of functional assessment, structured risk assessment and psychometric testing to inform comprehensive risk assessments. Her



professional training includes: Structured Assessment of Risk & Need (SARN) for sexual offenders (Band A); Risk Matrix 2000 for sexual offenders; psychometric assessment for sexual offenders; HCR-20 for violent offenders; Psychopathy Check List-Revised (PCL-R) for psychopathy assessment; PCL-R Reliability (Gold Standard); International Personality Disorder Examination; Suicide and self harm prevention; Trauma therapy (EMDR levels 1-3); Expert Witness Training & Coroner's Court Training. She is also a trainer in the use of the SARN and Risk Matrix 2000.

Ms Saward accepts instructions relating to adults involved in family or criminal court proceedings on a range of issues including assessment of:

- ***Risk of sexual violence***
- ***Risk of violence / aggression***
- ***Risk of domestic violence***
- ***Risk of abuse / neglect***
- ***Cognitive functioning / intelligence***
- ***Psychopathy***

Ms Saward has an Enhanced DBS certificate and Professional Indemnity Insurance.

HCPC – PYL18616





## **Keith Howie Chartered Psychologist & Registered Educational Psychologist**

### **Adult, Child & Family Assessments**

Keith is an Educational Psychologist with more than 25 years of educational and clinical experience working with adults, children and families in multi professional settings. His qualifications include a B.A. Honours Degree in Psychology (University of Nottingham), a Certificate in Education (University of London) and a Master's degree in Educational Psychology (University of Nottingham). He has a Post Qualifying Certificate in Residential Social Work (University of Bristol).

He is registered with the Health Professions Council as a practising educational psychologist (Registration Number PYL00540) and is an Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society and a Chartered Psychologist (BPS Membership Number 078988). He is a qualified and registered user of a portfolio of psychometric tests and clinical procedures for assessing intelligence, personality functioning and mental health in both children and adults. He has also trained to use a number of specialist assessment tools designed for children and adults with complex communication and social interaction difficulties and the assessment of families with complex difficulties.

He participates in ongoing professional training relating to safeguarding issues for both children & vulnerable adults. He has received specific training on systemic work with children & families and on multi-modal practice with hard to reach children & families. He has attended a wide range of courses on a variety of psychological approaches and is qualified to use a range of dynamic assessment tests. He has had approved training in the administration of specialist autism assessments, including the ADOS-2 and the 3Di.

During his career as a Psychologist he has worked closely with parents, teachers, Social Workers and health professionals in the assessment, management and treatment of children, adolescents and adults with a wide range of special needs including sensory deficits, physical disabilities, learning and developmental problems and emotional and behavioural disorders. As Director of Professional & Clinical Services for a national provider of care services he was responsible for a multi-disciplinary team of clinicians, which included Speech & Language Therapists, Educational & Clinical Psychologists & Psychiatrists. He has substantial experience in working directly with young people who are exceptionally troubled & troublesome, with offenders and with children who have suffered abuse and substantial trauma in their lives and with



children and young people with attachment problems. He has had over twenty years' experience as a specialist practitioner with children, young people and adults with autism and he is a consultant to services run by the National Autistic Society. He has spoken nationally on working with autism and has particular interest in the emotional challenges faced by people with autism and their carers.

Prior to qualifying as a psychologist, he was employed for eight years by the Department for Health and Social Services, initially as a Groupworker-Teacher and subsequently as Head of Education based at St Charles Youth Treatment Centre, one of the two centres run directly by the Department to provide care and therapy for children and young people with the most severe and complex care needs, including young people who had been convicted of offences such as murder, manslaughter and rape and children who presented severe and persistent patterns of self-harm and extreme risk-taking behaviours. These children & young people had generally been brought up in chaotic and abusive settings and had experienced multiple challenges. In his work he was involved in undertaking therapeutic work with the young people and their families. His work was informed by psycho-dynamic and systemic practice and included the use of attachment theory.

During the early 1970's he spent 4 years working as a probation officer, based in Liverpool and in Western Australia.

Keith has given evidence in Court on many occasions. He is listed as a checked Expert Witness in the Directory of Expert Witnesses 2017.

He has an Enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service Certificate, number 001444799309.



## **Lisa Harrison** **Chartered Psychologist &** **Registered Counselling Psychologist**

### **Adult Assessments**

Lisa Harrison is a Chartered Psychologist with thirteen years post qualification experience. She currently works in full time independent practice providing therapy for a diverse range of adult mental health difficulties inclusive of serious mental illness and complex trauma. She offers cognitive and clinical assessment of adults in the context of family and civil proceedings. She currently works as an Expert Witness in Personal Injury cases.

Lisa is an Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society and a member of the Division of Counselling Psychology. She is registered with the Health & Care Professions Council. She is a member of both the Society of Expert Witnesses and the Expert Witness Institute.

Her qualifications include a BSc honours degree in Psychology with Criminology, an MSc in Counselling Psychology and an MSt (Oxon) in Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy at Oxford University. Lisa is currently completing her Doctorate at City University, London.

Lisa's area of interest is in third wave therapies and their use in psychosis and neurosis based disorders. She has completed a training internship in Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) in the University of Massachusetts Medical School Centre for Mindfulness. Lisa was subsequently invited to Bangor University to train teachers in the development of MBSR and its use in child and adult mental health.

She received training in Dialectical Behaviour Therapy with Behavioural Tech LLC in order to implement DBT with clients presenting with borderline personality disorder. She subsequently trained with Bond Solon attaining expert witness skills including report writing and Courtroom skills.

Lisa has provided consultation, supervision, teaching and training to professionals working with adults. Lisa has taught workshops on the implementation of third wave therapies in adult mental health in the British Psychological Society.

As a trainee Psychologist Lisa gained experience in Community Child and Family Services in addition to Assertive Outreach in Birmingham Social Services, Edgbaston. She was later employed as a Specialist and subsequently Highly Specialist Chartered Psychologist working in the NHS for nine years. During that time she worked in community mental health teams, inpatient and outpatient adult mental health settings working with individuals, families and groups. Lisa joined a low secure independent hospital setting where she



worked as part of a forensic multidisciplinary team together with involvement in a DBT team. She provided assessment, formulation and treatment of clients with serious mental illness. The focus of work centred on the treatment of borderline personality disordered clients.

Lisa is experienced in the use of a wide range of clinical tools, structured risk assessments, and psychometric measures to assess cognitive abilities, personality, mental health and trauma symptoms in adults and adolescents.

Lisa Harrison specialises in assessments of **adults** and **adolescents** in the context of **Family Proceedings** and **Private Law disputes**. She takes instructions relating to assessments of:

- ***Personality disorder, mental illness and alcohol/drug misuse and its impact on parenting and the parent's ability to protect***
- ***The risk of domestic violence***
- ***The risk of sexual violence***
- ***Mental Capacity & Cognitive Functioning Assessments***
- ***The therapeutic and support needs of parents, their capacity to change and the likely timescale for that change***

Lisa Harrison is listed as a checked Expert Witness in the Directory of Expert Witnesses 2017.



## **Madeleine Dunham Chartered Psychologist & Registered Clinical Psychologist**

### **Adult, Child & Family Assessments**

Madeleine Dunham is a Consultant Clinical Psychologist with 25 years experience in the assessment and treatment of children, adolescents and their families in the NHS both in multi-professional teams and individually.

Her qualifications include a BSc Honours Degree in Psychology/Biology, a Diploma in Clinical Psychology awarded by the Manchester Training Course in Clinical Psychology, an MSc in Psychotherapy from the University of Warwick, a Certificate in Further Educational Training, a Certificate in Consultation from the Tavistock Clinic and an MBA from Bristol Business School.

Madeleine Dunham is Chartered with the British Psychological Society and registered with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) as a Clinical Psychologist. She is a member of the British Psychological Society Division of Clinical Psychology and Faculty of Child Psychology.

Mrs Dunham is a qualified registered user of a portfolio of psychometric tests and clinical procedures assessing intelligence, personality, trauma symptomatology and psychopathology in both adults and children. She regularly attends training courses and conferences to keep up to date with developments in the field. She has also recently completed training in the HCR-20, a structured risk assessment tool to explore factors linked to risk of future violence.

She has worked with children and families in a wide variety of settings dealing with children with learning disabilities, developmental delay, children and adolescents with emotional and mental health difficulties as part of a child and adolescent mental health (CAMHS) and developed a paediatric service at Bristol Children's Hospital for children with long term physical conditions. She has particular interests in neuro psychological conditions, ADHD and ASD.

She has extensive experience of working with children within the care system, both as a psychologist and foster carer, in supporting parents and families in dealing with children's difficulties and developing parenting skills. She employs an eclectic approach to assessment and therapy drawing on key psychological approaches including cognitive behaviour therapy, family therapy, solution focussed therapy and other psychotherapeutic approaches.





Prior to her move into full time independent practice, Madeleine Dunham was most recently employed as Head of Child & Adolescent Clinical Psychology at Bristol Children's Hospital, which provided a service both to child and adolescent mental health, learning disability, forensics, substance misuse and paediatrics.

Madeleine Dunham has over 20 years experience as an expert witness in public and private family law and has accepted over 200 instructions as a single joint expert on a range of issues including:

- ***Assessment of parenting ability with respect to childhood and personal history, learning disabilities and personality disorder, mental health, substance misuse, anger management and sexual boundaries/abuse.***
- ***Assessment of family dynamics and relationship issues including domestic violence.***
- ***Assessment of harm suffered by children or risk of future harm with respect to neglect and/or abuse (including emotional, sexual or physical).***
- ***Assessment of attachment issues, separation and loss and sibling relationships.***
- ***Assessment of the therapeutic and support needs of parents and/or children.***
- ***Assessment of the prospect of change and the likely timescale for that change.***
- ***Assessment of placement needs following a Care Order, including whether siblings should be placed together or separately and the nature and extent of contact with the birth family.***
- ***Assessment of residence and contact disputes.***
- ***Assessment of personal injury following physical or psychological trauma.***

Madeleine Dunham has given evidence in court on many occasions and has attended relevant training courses in order to undertake this.

Madeleine Dunham has Full Enhanced DBS Clearance and holds Personal Professional Indemnity Insurance. She is listed as a checked Expert Witness in the Directory of Expert Witnesses 2017.

HCPC – PYL05301

DBS – 001389981621



## **Mary Holba Chartered Psychologist & Registered Clinical Psychologist Adult, Child & Family Assessments**

Mary Holba has more than 30 years clinical experience working with children, young people and families in a variety of multi-agency settings. She is a Chartered Psychologist and an Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society (membership number 018890), a member of the Division of Clinical Psychology and the Faculty for Children and Young People. She is registered with the Health Care Professions Council (HCPC number PYL06228)

Mary's qualifications include a BSc Honours Degree in Psychology (Bedford College, University of London), a Post Graduate Certificate in Education (University of Bristol), an MSc in Clinical Psychology (University of Plymouth 1987), a Masters Degree in Consultation and the Organisation (Goldsmiths College in collaboration with The Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust) and a Post Graduate Diploma in the Management of IAPT Services (University of Reading).

For the last 9 years Mary was the Lead Child and Adolescent Clinical Psychologist for Gloucestershire 2Gether NHS Foundation Trust. She oversaw the development of the Clinical Psychology team, from 3 members to 11 by the time she left, in a range of specialist areas within the service and provided consultation and supervision to a wide range of groups and professions within the county. She participated in strategy development and was also the Governance lead for Children and young Peoples services within the Trust.

Mary's NHS Clinical Work centred on the assessment and treatment of a range of clinical disorders within Child and Adolescent Mental Health with a particular emphasis on the Psychological assessment of cases where the diagnosis was unclear, for example Autism Spectrum versus Attachment disorder. She completed the Oxford Child Clinical Neuropsychology Course and is trained in the use of ADOS-2 a gold standard tool in the Assessment of Autism Spectrum. She is trained in a range of psychological models including cognitive behaviour therapy and psychodynamic approaches as well as attachment theory. She uses these to assist in her assessment and understanding of a young person's needs.

Mary has also developed expertise in the assessment and treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) ranging from single episode PTSD to complex trauma work using a range of CBT techniques including Prolonged Exposure therapy.



Mary was instrumental in setting up a Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) service for young people with a history of repeated complex self-harm in Gloucestershire. She completed the DBT training (British Isles DBT trainers) and is recognised as having expertise in leading DBT skills groups and also individual work with DBT clients. She also managed the multi-disciplinary service for the assessment of Young People who presented at hospital with serious self-harm in the county. Her extensive work in this area has enabled her to develop skills in assessing and working with young people who present with behaviours indicative of Borderline Personality Disorder.

Mary is recognised as a highly skilled trainer being able to bring theoretical perspectives and approaches to life with case material and interactive approaches. She has provided training to professionals and associated workers in Health, Social Care and Education. Mary also developed a Core Competencies training course for Clinicians in Child and Adolescent Mental Health who do not have a core training with Children. The course had just completed its' first iteration when she left the service in March 2016 and was considered to be highly successful.

Mary is able to offer expertise in the following areas:

- ***Child and adolescent mental health difficulties***
- ***Psychological assessment of Children and Young people with complex learning and developmental difficulties.***
- ***Assessment of Autism Spectrum in children and teenagers.***
- ***Assessment of complex repeated self-harm in children and teenagers.***
- ***Assessment of therapeutic, emotional and social needs following complex trauma.***
- ***Consultation to groups and teams on their functioning and development.***

Mary has given evidence in court on a number of occasions. She is DBS checked (number 001491127200 (23<sup>rd</sup> June 2015)).



## **Steven William Bland Chartered Psychologist & Registered Educational & Forensic Psychologist**

### **Adult, Child & Family Assessments**

Steven Bland is a Child & Adult Chartered Psychologist with over thirty years experience of Local Authority work with children and families, including advisory work and management.

His qualifications include a B.Sc. Honours degree in Psychology (University of Sheffield, 1973), a Certificate of Education (University of Lancaster, 1974) and Masters Degrees in Educational Psychology (University of Sheffield, 1978) and Management (University of Keele, 1994) and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Legal and Forensic Psychology (University of Leicester, 2009).

Steven is Chartered with the British Psychological Society (BPS) and an Associate Fellow of the BPS. He is also registered with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC) as an Educational Psychologist. He is a qualified user of psychometric instruments and clinical assessment procedures with both children and adults. He has recently undertaken specific training in the use of the HCR 20 to assess risk of physical violence and the EQi test of Emotional Intelligence.

Local Authority experience was accumulated in the North East, Cheshire and North Wales where Steven was promoted to Deputy Principal Psychologist (1987) and, ultimately, Principal Psychologist (1991). During the later years with the Local Authority Steven was the Agency representative on the Area Child Protection Committee, involved in monitoring investigations of child protection matters and in developing services for children / young people and their families.

From 1994 to 1996 Steven provided a psychological / management input to the development of the Prospects Centre for Young People. This is a specialist resource for children and young people who have been abused and are in Local Authority care but who are difficult to place other than in residential care.

Since the Prospects Centre Steven has accumulated 12 years experience in preparing expert assessments for the Courts in Child Care Proceedings (Public and Private Law). This has



included providing reports for Court on adults and children in more than 600 sets of childcare, residence and contact proceedings.

In 2006 Steven was commissioned to undertake a comprehensive review of services for children / young people with emotional / behavioural difficulties, including those in Public Care, in a newly established Children's Services Department in the North West.

Recent and current professional training / C.P.D. has included Emotional Abuse in Children's cases, Risk Assessment of Physical Abuse and Adoption (all 2005), and Assessment of Emotional Intelligence (2006).

Steven Bland's specialist areas of expertise are listed by the British Psychological Society (member 34077) as follows:

- ***Adoption and fostering assessment***
- ***Children Act / child protection assessment***
- ***Family/Domestic issues and children***
- ***Family/child issues***
- ***Child abuse***
- ***Care proceedings***
- ***Parenting and risk assessments***
- ***Assessment of attachments***
- ***Assessment of mental capacity***
- ***Post – traumatic stress disorder***

Steven Bland has given evidence in the Family Court in over 100 cases. He is listed as a checked Expert Witness in the Directory of Expert Witnesses 2017.

HCPC # PYL28039

CRB# 001334598427





## **Sue Vivian-Byrne**

### **Chartered Psychologist &**

### **Registered Forensic & Clinical Psychologist**

## **Adult Assessments**

Mrs Vivian-Byrne is a Clinical and Forensic Psychologist with over 25 years experience of assessment and treatment of adults and families in the NHS and the independent sector. She has worked in medium and low secure mental health units as well as in open adult mental health units and in the community. She is registered with the United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy as a Systemic Psychotherapist. She has been a member of the Parole Board for England and Wales for over 5 years.

Her qualifications include a BSc Honours Degree in Psychology, an MPhil in Clinical Psychology and a Diploma in Family Therapy all awarded by London University. She has furthermore undertaken substantial post-qualification training in the areas of psychological therapies including a range of Cognitive Behavioural Therapies and Systemic Psychotherapy for individuals and families, risk assessment including the HCR-20, RSVP and the PCL-R and training on the revisions to the Mental Health Act 1983 and the Mental Capacity Act.

Mrs Vivian-Byrne is Chartered with the British Psychology Society (BPS). She is registered with the Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC). She is also a member of the BPS Division of Clinical Psychology, the BPS Division of Forensic Psychology, the Faculty of Forensic Clinical Psychology, the British Association of Behavioural and Cognitive Psychotherapy, the Association of Family Therapy and The Family Institute. She acts as a National Assessor for the BPS, advising panels on the appointments of the most senior Clinical Psychologists in the NHS. She is a Foundation Member and Assessor for the BPS Register of Psychologists Specialising in Psychotherapy.

Her NHS work has been mainly in the field of Forensic Mental Health and Personality Disorder and she was Head of Clinical Psychology for the South Wales Forensic Mental Health Service for over 14 years. She was a member of the External Reference Group for the Welsh Assembly Government's Pathway for Personality Disorder. She has a wide experience of providing training, supervision and consultation to a range of professionals working in Health, Social Services, Probation and the Prison Service and has regularly contributed to the South Wales Clinical Psychology training course both in terms of teaching sessions, and supervising trainees on placement.

Mrs Vivian-Byrne has extensive experience of working with adults who present complex challenges to health, social services and the criminal justice system, as well as in assessing and supporting parents and families to improve their family relationships. She uses an integrative



approach to assessment, formulation and intervention, drawing on a variety of psychological models, theory and research as well as a variety of psychotherapeutic approaches, including Family/Systems Therapy, Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, and Supportive Psychotherapy. These therapeutic approaches are further integrated with structured and clinical assessments of risk.

Mrs Vivian-Byrne continues to work as a Forensic Clinical Psychologist in a Low Secure Unit for Adult Mental Health and Learning Disability, providing a comprehensive assessment and treatment service to clients with complex and challenging needs. She has specialised in assessment, treatment and the development of multi-disciplinary services to clients with mental health problems, personality disorder, offending behaviour and persistent self-harm. She also continues to work as a member of the Parole Board contributing to decisions about the release and/or progress within the prison system of 'lifers' and other complex, recidivist violent and sexual offenders. In this context the emphasis is on the analysis of the risk the prisoner present to others and the likelihood of them benefiting from offending behaviour programmes.

She is qualified to use a portfolio of psychometric assessments and clinical procedures assessing intelligence, personality, risk, psychopathology and trauma symptomatology.

Mrs Vivian-Byrne has acted as a single joint expert within **Family Proceedings** and as an expert in **Criminal Proceedings** since 1984. She accepts instructions on a wide range of issues including:

- **Assessment of family dynamics and relationship issues including domestic violence**
- **Adult mental health, personality and learning disability**
- **Assessment of risk of future harm with respect to abuse and/or neglect (including emotional, sexual or physical abuse)**
- **Assessment of the therapeutic and support needs of parents**
- **Assessment of the prospect of change and the likely timescale for that change**
- **Assessment of risk of violence, sexual offending and other offending behaviour**
- **Assessment of fitness to plead**

Mrs Vivian-Byrne has given evidence in a range of court settings including Magistrates Courts, Crown Court, Family Courts and the Court of Appeal, on many occasions and has attended relevant training courses to undertake this.

Mrs Vivian-Byrne is listed as a checked Expert Witness in the Directory of Expert Witnesses 2017.

HCPC – PYL22588

DBS – 001417903109