

George Dimitrov

Forensic Psychologist | Expert Witness | Clinical Leader

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PERSONAL STATEMENT

HCPC-registered Forensic Psychologist and PhD Candidate with over 10 years of experience in secure and rehabilitation settings. Specialist in structured professional judgement tools and neurodevelopmental assessments, including ADI-R and ADOS-2. Extensive experience in Occupational Health, including conducting workplace adjustments for neurodiverse employees and evaluating fitness for work. Proven expertise in developing psychological services, clinical governance, and providing tailored advice for complex workplace and forensic cases, with full clinical autonomy.

KEY SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

- Advanced Neuropsychological Testing: Expert in the latest WAIS-5 (UK version), D-KEFS, and TOPF for comprehensive cognitive and executive functioning profiles.
 - Gold-Standard Autism Diagnostics: Fully competent in ADOS-2 and ADI-R for clinical and forensic populations.
 - Expert in structured professional judgement tools: HCR-20, SVR-20, SARAv3
 - Skilled in forensic formulation, offence-focused treatment planning, and evidence-based interventions
 - Extensive experience working with detained, high-risk individuals in secure and rehabilitation settings
 - Clinical leadership including supervision, team development, and service quality improvement
 - Strong multi-agency collaboration: tribunals, MAPPA, and high-risk decision-making forums
 - Competent in neurodevelopmental and autism diagnostic assessments (ADI-R, ADOS-2)
 - Skilled in cognitive and personality assessments including WAIS-IV and MMPI-3
 - Therapeutic delivery: DBT, CBT, trauma-informed approaches – IEMT, CFT.
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Locum Psychologist, Elysium Gateway Recovery Centre – Specialised Autism Units** | April – August 2025
 - Lead comprehensive neurodevelopmental and forensic psychological assessments for adults with complex mental health, substance misuse, and neurodevelopmental disorders in a secure care setting.
 - Conduct detailed risk assessments using structured tools such as HCR-20, SVR-20, and SARAv3 to inform treatment planning and enhance patient safety.
 - Develop and implement evidence-based, offence-focused interventions addressing trauma, challenging behaviours, and dual diagnosis complexities.
 - Provide clinical supervision and reflective practice sessions to psychology staff, fostering professional development and ensuring high standards of clinical governance.
 - Collaborate with multidisciplinary teams, including psychiatrists, social workers, occupational therapists, and external agencies, to coordinate holistic care pathways.
 - Contribute to service development initiatives, embedding national guidance and best practice standards in neurodevelopmental and forensic mental health care.
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- **Expert Witness - Forensic and Civil Courts** | March 2023 – Present
 - Prepare detailed forensic psychological and neurodevelopmental reports, with emphasis on risk formulation, cognitive functioning, and autism spectrum disorders.
 - Provide expert testimony in tribunals, courts, and MAPPA meetings, contributing to high-stakes decision-making and safeguarding processes.
 - Engage with legal professionals and multi-agency stakeholders to ensure clarity and accuracy in psychological opinions that impact care and risk management.
- **Locum Forensic Psychologist — Priory Group (High-Dependency Rehabilitation and Secure Units)** | February 2024 – April 2025
 - Directed forensic psychological assessments and risk management interventions within high-dependency rehabilitation settings for adult males with complex neuropsychiatric and forensic histories.
 - Led offence-focused treatment planning integrating DBT and trauma-informed approaches tailored to secure care populations.
 - Provided clinical supervision and training to junior staff and multidisciplinary team members on neurodevelopmental and forensic issues.
 - Contributed to audits, governance reviews, and service improvement strategies aligned with forensic mental health standards.
- **Prison Psychologist (Band 8b) — Ministry of Justice** | November 2023 – February 2024 and at the moment
 - Delivered comprehensive psychological assessments, including cognitive and personality evaluations (WAIS-IV, MMPI-3), for incarcerated high-risk offenders.
 - Applied structured professional judgement tools (HCR-20, SVR-20) to inform risk management and rehabilitation plans within custodial settings.
 - Supported prison staff through training and supervision, enhancing understanding of neurodevelopmental disorders and complex mental health presentations in secure environments.
- **Principal Forensic Psychologist — Priory Group** | July 2020 – October 2022
 - Led forensic psychology service provision across multiple inpatient units, including PICU, acute wards, and locked rehabilitation units, managing clinical risk for detained individuals under the Mental Health Act.
 - Conducted thorough risk assessments, forensic formulations, and offence-focused interventions, with a strong focus on multidisciplinary collaboration and patient-centred care.
 - Supervised and mentored psychology teams, promoting reflective practice and professional development in line with clinical governance requirements.
 - Acted as a key contributor to tribunals, MAPPA panels, and high-risk decision-making forums, providing expert opinion and facilitating robust risk management strategies.
 - Engaged in service development, policy implementation, and quality improvement initiatives aligned with national forensic mental health guidance.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

- **HCPC Registered Forensic Psychologist** (Ongoing Professional Registration)
- PhD Candidate | Status: Discharged with right of defence
- Autism Assessment Course (ADOS-2, ADI-R) – February 2022
- Spousal Assault Risk Assessment (SARA v3) – April 2023
- SVR-20 (Evaluation of Sexual Violence Risk) – March 2022
- HCR-20-V3 (Evaluation of Risk for Violence) – July 2019
- Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) – Training – June 2022

- Certified CBT Practitioner – Udemy & Achology UK – February 2018
- Integral Eye Movement Therapy (IEMT) Training – May 2024 & May 2025 (A trauma-focused therapeutic approach)
- Forensic Psychology – UK Open University – June 2017 (2-month course)
- Professional Training: Clinical Psychology in Psychiatric Illnesses & Support – Sofia City, Bulgaria – May 2005 (100 hours)
- Mental Capacity Act, Deprivation of Liberty, Risk Assessment – Royal Borough of Greenwich – June/July 2019
- Clinical Supervision & Coaching/Mentoring Courses – Greenwich ACL – June 2017
- Principles of Working with Individuals with Learning Difficulties (NVQ Level 2) – January 2020
- Understanding Autism (NVQ Level 2) – TQUK, London – March 2019
- Counselling Skills (NVQ Level 2) – TQUK – December 2018
- Child Psychology (NVQ Level 3) – News Skills Academy, London – January 2019
- PMVA & Breakaway Level 2 Course – February 2020
- **Various CPD courses** including Mental Health Awareness, Telepsychology, Improving Learning, Opioid-Use Disorders, Mindfulness for Adolescents (2017-2019)

PUBLICATIONS & ADDITIONAL SKILLS

George is a published author with **more than 20 conference reports and articles** in professional journals.

- Published author in forensic psychology and clinical neurodevelopmental fields.
- Skilled in preparing legally robust reports and providing expert testimony.
- Experienced clinical supervisor and mentor.
- Full UK HGV driving license with no points.

PERSONAL INTERESTS

Tai Chi, Aikido, exploring new cultures and locations, and engaging in professional learning and development.

References

Available on request.