

Adoption and Fostering | Child and Family | Immigration and Asylum | Personal Injury
| Clinical Negligence | Occupational Psychology | Neuropsychology | Mental Capacity

Child and Family

Specialists in providing psychological experts in all aspects of law



The nationwide directory for psychologist expert witnesses

Lead by a clinical psychologist, we are a nationwide team of expert psychologists who are passionate about the work we do. Because we work exclusively in this field, we help you make the right decisions when instructing a specialist who has the specific skills your case demands. We are committed to providing objective, evidence-based assessments to support the decisions of the Courts.

We understand the diverse needs of individuals, children, parents and offenders in proceedings, and consequently support you in providing the necessary expertise. A detailed knowledge of our experts' training and experience is crucial in order to establish the exact requirements of your case, as well as having a deep understanding of the psychological issues presented.

Due Diligence

The quality of our work starts from the outset of the selection process. Each of our psychologists have been selected for their expertise in their respective fields of psychology.

All of our experts are:

- Professionals with at least 3 years post-qualification experience
- Registered with the Health Care Professionals Council (HCPC)
- Chartered with the British Psychological Society
- Criminal Record (DBS) checked
- Maintaining their professional CPD
- Regularly supervised and managed by senior psychologists

Our Process

Whilst we maintain excellent relationships with our team, forward-thinking automated systems make our daily communications with them prompt and direct. We are able to inform you of expert timescales and availability within hours of your enquiry.

Our admin team are experienced in working with cases surrounding complex issues and sensitive information, managing your expert instruction throughout the process with utmost care and attention.

“ Psychology Experts were extremely helpful and attentive to our needs, from dealing with our initial enquiry courteously to the prompt delivery of the final report. We would have no hesitation in returning to them for future expert instructions. ”

- Solicitor,
Crane and Staples Solicitors

Our Team of Experts

Our ever-growing team spans the whole of the UK, with Clinical, Counselling, Educational, Occupational and Forensic Psychologists and Neuropsychologists in or near every major city in England. Our experts have diverse cultural experience and linguistic abilities. Our online directory gives detailed information on each expert including their areas of expertise and specialist training, which can be found quickly using our smart search tool. We believe in full transparency and therefore all expert CVs can also be downloaded in full so that you can carry out your own due diligence.



Dr Marc Desautels, CPsychol, CSci, AFBPS
Clinical Psychologist
Areas: London and surrounding areas
Specialisms: Adult Mental Health; Personality Disorder; Substance Misuse; Trauma and PTSD; Learning Difficulties; Mental Capacity; Forensic Risk; Sexual Risk; Domestic Abuse; Parenting Capacity



Dr Nathan O'Neill, B.Sc, MA, D.Clin.Psych
Clinical Psychologist
Areas: Glasgow and surrounding areas
Specialisms: Adult Mental Health; Personality Disorder; Substance Misuse; Trauma and PTSD



Dr Rebecca Clark-Dowd, D.Clin.Psy, BA
Clinical Psychologist
Areas: North East England
Specialisms: Adult Mental Health; Personality Disorder; Substance Misuse; Trauma and PTSD; Learning Difficulties; Mental Capacity; Forensic Risk; Domestic Abuse; Parenting Capacity; Physical Disability



Dr Helen Nicholas, PsychD, CPsychol, AFBPS
Counselling Psychologist
Areas: South West
Specialisms: Adult Mental Health; Personality Disorder



Dr Lalitaa Suglani, Couns.Psy.D, MSc.(Hons), BSc.(Hons)
Counselling Psychologist
Areas: Midlands
Specialisms: Trauma and PTSD; Mental Capacity; Domestic Abuse; Youth Offending; Child Mental Health; Child Behaviour; School Problems; Parenting Capacity; Parent-Child Attachment



Dr Paul Lewis
Clinical Psychologist
Areas: London and surrounding areas
Specialisms: Adult Mental Health; Trauma and PTSD



Dr Karen Addy, MSc, D.Clin.Psych, QICN, DipCAT, CPsychol, AFBPS
Clinical Psychologist and Neuropsychologist
Areas: Bangor and North West
Specialisms: Trauma and PTSD; Neuropsychological; Learning Difficulties; Mental Capacity; Physical Disability



Dr Adam Jarvis, B.Sc., D.Clin.Psych, CPsychol, AFBPS
Clinical Psychologist
Areas: London and surrounding areas
Specialisms: Adult Mental Health; Personality Disorder; Substance Misuse; Neuropsychological; Learning Difficulties; Mental Capacity; Sexual Risk; Domestic Abuse



Dr Lisa Anderson, BSc (Hons), MSc, PgDip, CPsychol, AFBPS
Clinical and Forensic Psychologist
Areas: Midlands
Specialisms: Adult Mental Health; Substance Misuse; Trauma and PTSD; Domestic Abuse; Youth Offending; Child Mental Health; Child Behaviour; School Problems; Parenting Capacity; Parent-Child Attachment



Dr Leonie Campbell, C.Psychol, CSci, AFBPS
Counselling Psychologist
Areas: London and surrounding areas
Specialisms: Adult Mental Health; Personality Disorder; Substance Misuse; Trauma and PTSD; Neuropsychological; Learning Difficulties; Mental Capacity; Parenting Capacity; Relationships Difficulties



Dr Adrian Hemmings, B.Sc., MA, D.Phil
Counselling Psychologist
Areas: South East
Specialisms: Adult Mental Health; Personality Disorder; Substance Misuse; Trauma and PTSD



Dr Adrian McGrath, Dip. CBT, BA, MSc., CPsychol, CSci, AFBPS
Forensic Psychologist
Areas: North West
Specialisms: Adult Mental Health; Mental Capacity



Dr Keren Fisher, BSc, MSc, Ph.D.
Clinical Psychologist
Areas: Bath and South West
Specialisms: Adult Mental Health; Trauma and PTSD; Physical Disability



Dr Vikki Hunkin, D.Clin.Psych, CPsychol, Pg.Dip, QICN
Clinical Psychologist and Neuropsychologist
Areas: South West
Specialisms: Adult Mental Health; Trauma and PTSD; Neuropsychological; Learning Difficulties; Mental Capacity; Parenting Capacity



Search an extensive list of our experts at on the website

www.psychologyexperts.org

Parental Assessments and Developmental Trauma

A robust psychological assessment of parenting should concisely identify the areas of parental difficulty and the root cause of these problems to target interventions within the timescales available to the child. It should also make clear the likely effectiveness of any psychological intervention to achieve permanency for the child as quickly as possible.

Parenting and Developmental Trauma

The rising tide of research into adverse childhood experiences highlight the significant long-term negative impact that this can have on a child's physical, cognitive, social, emotional and behavioural development. There are also emergent links between developmental trauma and parental risks including attachment difficulties, substance misuse, mental health and abusive relationship. A clear psychological understanding of a parent's own developmental difficulties can target interventions to reduce the risk of the transgenerational cycle of maltreatment.

Assessments of Attachment

Attachment-based parental risk assessments make clear the links between a parent's attachment in childhood and their capacity to parent. Sensitive attuned parenting does not just describe the quality of care but can also predict parental protectiveness and parental safety. Psychological assessments of attachment can be based on direct observation of the parent-child relationship, the parent's mental representation of the child and the child's own thinking about their care. Psychological assessments such as the CARE-Index, Child Attachment Interview and Story Stem can provide the court with reliable evidence-based information on which to base decisions about a child's needs.

Parental Mental Health, Substance Misuse & Relationships

Parental mental health, together with substance misuse and abusive relationships, form a trilogy of the strongest predictors of child maltreatment. However, it is the complex interplay between multiple parenting difficulties that can really help us understand the risks to a child. This needs to be balanced against the individual strengths and supportive social and professional networks to assess a child's safety.

Developmental and Educational Assessments

Developmental assessments map a child's performance in comparison with children of similar age. An educational psychologist will identify a child's challenges in a range of developmental domains including cognitive, emotional, social, and adaptive behaviours, such as self-care and independence in everyday tasks. Where maltreatment is a concern, the causality of these weaknesses will be explored in order to formulate a wider picture of the child's environment. Cognitive and neuropsychological assessments are utilised in situations where difficulties could potentially be due to intellectual disability or learning problems.

Fostering and Adoption

Psychological assessments are valuable at every step in the care pathway. Assessments of the foster and adoptive placements can provide valuable insights into the strengths and difficulties between a child and their new carers. Psychologists work extensively with adoptive parents to help the child adapt and integrate with their new family.

Together or Apart Assessments

Understanding the attachment relationship between siblings can speed-up decisions about the needs of each child in a family and whether they should be placed together or apart. It's important that we get this right, as decisions about the sibling relationship are a key factors in placement breakdown. Structured assessment of the attachment between each child can increase the long-term success of looked after care.

Complex Global Family Assessments

Research suggests that around 2% of families in England experience multiple and complex parenting difficulties. Such problems are often seen to be intergenerational - they are likely to impact significantly on the life trajectories of children in a cyclical nature. Stopping this loop of behaviour is the key to a number of improvements in social health.

Global family assessments can offer a cohesive understanding of any parenting difficulties, the child(ren)'s needs but also a the broader network of support within the extended family. This can offer clear pathways for intervention and change. Having one expert work with all family members, they will be able to develop a more integrated understanding of the larger picture.

Therapeutic Interventions

Chartered Psychologists are trained in diverse interventions for trauma, adjustment disorder, stress, and associated diagnoses. Our experts offer both short-term evidence-based interventions such as EMDR, trauma-focused CBT (TF-CBT), as well as longer-term interventions. Psychologists are also trained to evaluate the outcome of their intervention, providing clear outcome and prognosis reports at the end of each intervention.

Capacity for Change

Psychologists work with parents both in the courts and in therapy and have a clear understanding of a parent's capacity and motivation for change not just during proceedings but throughout a child's minority.

“ From the time I instructed to the time that the expert assessed my client and provided the report was very quick and efficient. The report was clear, concise and extremely helpful and I will recommend this service in the future. ”

Contracts

Whether a national law firm or sole trader, we are able to fulfil regular referrals, accommodating the type of cases you receive and how they are funded.

We are flexible in the way we integrate with your existing procedures through our adaptable case management system, meaning we can offer quick and consistent results. To aid communication, a dedicated case manager will be on-hand throughout every case.

Speak to us about your requirements so we can arrange the most suitable arrangement for your firm.

Service and Payment Terms

We provide full administrative support for each of our psychologists to ensure that appointments are booked and reports are quality checked and submitted on time.

We ensure clear communication about costs and timescales, ensuring that experts meet set deadlines.

We have standard payment terms of 30 days but also offer deferred payment until conclusion of the case.

We offer a clear complaints procedure and provide a Mediation and Resolution Service in the unlikely event that any assessments that do not meet the needs of the court, client expectations or professional standards.

Contact

Email: admin@psychologyexperts.org

Tel: 01273 381468

Web: www.psychologyexperts.org



Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence



Adoption and Foster Care



Civil Law



Criminal Law



Therapy and Rehabilitation



Employment Law



Educational Psychology



Immigration and Asylum