



## Dr Edel McAndrew

BSc Hons, Dip.Clin.Psychol, Clin PsychD, MSc.

### Chartered Clinical Psychologist



Health Professions Council Registration: **PYL18262**  
British Psychological Society Membership: **082357**

Dr McAndrew has been a full time Clinical Psychologist since 1997, qualifying in Ireland where she worked in the public health service for many years before moving to the UK. She has worked in CAMHS, including LAC and fostering and adoption services, in Ireland, the Channel Islands (Guernsey & Alderney) and in the UK in addition to working in Paediatrics and Educational Psychology services. Dr McAndrew's doctoral research was into pre-adolescent eating disorders; child protection investigations and language disordered children. She has worked in CAMHS, IAPT and adult IAPT services; Adult LD and community and in-patient neuro rehab services as well as specialist ASD and ADHD MDTs. Dr McAndrew also works as an expert witness in the family and criminal courts and provide clinical supervision to colleagues working in private practice. Dr McAndrew understands the challenges of working with complex families and children very well.

#### FAMILY COURTS

- Assessments of parenting (Public & Private Law), parental capacity and family functioning in family law proceedings, including assessments of Attachment and Risk assessments including assessment of children (0-18 years and whole families)
- Parental Alienation assessments including high conflict cases
- Custody & contact disputes

#### CHILD ASSESSMENTS

- Evaluation of children's emotional and educational needs.
- ADHD assessments in children and support to families.
- Credibility of child witnesses and other vulnerable witnesses, including retractions.
- Assessment of abuse and neglect on children.

#### CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

- Evaluation of Memorandum of Good Practice videotaped interviews.
- Assessments of psychological impairment and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).
- Difficulties and Domestic Violence and Drug & Alcohol Use.
- Capacity Assessments.
- Rape trauma, victim impact.
- Assessment of 'Sexomnia'
- Disputed confessions made to the Police & Eyewitness testimony.
- Assessment of drug and alcohol abuse in criminal cases e.g. drink drive offences.

#### CIVIL PROCEEDINGS

- Personal injury including psychological impairment and psychological distress including PTSD.
- Assessment of intellectual functioning and impairment following personal injury.

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## PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- 2019** MSc Nutrition, Food Science & Health, University College Dublin
- 2016** PGCert Business Administration, The Open University
- 2001** Doctorate Clinical Psychology, University of Surrey
- 1997** Postgraduate Diploma Clinical Psychology, University of Ulster
- 1990** BSc Hons. Psychology, Manchester Metropolitan University

## WORK HISTORY

### **2005 – Present Independent Consultant Clinical Psychologist**

Providing medico-legal reports for criminal, personal injury & family cases working as a Consultant to Looked After Children's services, CAMHS, Social Services, Fostering and adoption teams, the Police, CPS. I have also run specialist treatment clinics for victims (adult & children) of PTSD & chronic pain due to road traffic accidents & serious industrial accidents (electrocution, falls from cranes, falls in lift shafts etc.), children and adults who have experienced complex trauma and severe attachment difficulties. In addition, I have also worked with refugees and asylum seekers, many of whom have experienced multiple traumas including war, torture and violent bereavements. I have also treated ex-military personnel. Some of these clients have had prosthetics fitted and required support with pain management and in accepting changes with reduced mobility, altered aesthetic appearance/disfigurement to sometimes radical changes in their lifestyle, employment prospects and overall level of activity. Intervention included rehabilitation planning, pain management techniques, EMDR, trauma focused CBT & Mindfulness approaches.

My private work has included working with a wide range of generic mental health difficulties, including anxiety-based problems (Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, Phobias, Health Anxiety, Panic Attacks, Separation Anxiety), and depression following adverse life events, such as bereavement and loss. I have also worked with the British Para Olympic Team in 2018 prior to the winter games.

In addition to the above, I have also provided assessments for adult ADHD/ADD & ASD, PTSD, and employment assessments (e.g. American Aviation Authority, employment disputes in education and industry, fitness to work cases), therapy for anxiety disorders, mood disorders, child abuse (child & adult survivors), addictions, eating disorders, behavioural problems, family dynamics, sexual dysfunction, BDS, DSH and weight management including working with patients who have gained excess weight due to medication side effects, e.g. Olanzapine.

### **2001 – 05 Regional Senior Clinical Psychologist in Ireland, Western Health Board (HSE West) – Head of the ADHD Specialist Assessment and Treatment Service**

Providing assessments, treatment, support to families & schools & training of other health professionals within an MDT environment. This was a new specialist service created in February 2001 to co-ordinate services for children, adolescents and their families with ADHD covering the 3 counties of Mayo, Galway & Roscommon providing assessment & treatment programmes for management of children & adolescents with ADHD and co-morbid complex neuro-developmental difficulties, including Asperger's Syndrome, all types of learning difficulties, Speech & language Disorders and emotional and behavioural problems. My role also including assessing children in schools & liaising with teachers advising on educational strategies to help them manage the child with ADHD & related conditions & to enhance the child's learning experiences in the classroom.

Lectures & presentations were also given to other HSE Psychologists & Health Professionals including Paediatricians & speech & language therapists and to groups of teachers. Part of my

role was to keep up to date with research and to be a teaching resource for other professionals working with children in the HSE. I also gave regular radio & newspaper interviews on ADHD.

**1997 – 01 Chartered Clinical Psychologist, Western Health Board (HSE-West)**

This was a full-time post working with children, adolescents & families, which included the provision of a psychology service to:

- Paediatrics;
- CAMHS;
- Child Protection Team (forensic work which included conducting Investigative Interviews in cases of suspected child abuse & preparing victim impact reports).

In 1999-2000 I was appointed as the psychologist in Mayo for a specialist language unit, which catered for children with language disorders and severe communication problems.

In my role I also represented the HSE-West as a Professional Witness in child care and family law proceedings which including conducting parenting & child abuse assessments & giving evidence in the district court and High court.

In May 1998, I wrote an article on Study Techniques, which was published in the Irish Independent national newspaper & the Western Health Board's free community paper, 'Health Links'. I also gave a number of radio interviews on the same topic for students preparing for the junior & leaving certificate state examinations and have given talks to community groups on bullying, self-esteem and ADHD.

## **PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **Doctoral Research**

Language Disorders & Psychological Problems including effects on self-esteem. Outcome showed the need to screen children more frequently for speech & language problem. (1998-2000)

Pre-adolescent Eating Disorders- review & analysis of literature. Showed that the frequency of ED is on the increase in children as young as 6 years and an increasing number of boys are now presenting with ED. Prevalence, aetiology & best treatment responses were also reviewed. (1998-2000)

Encopresis- review & analysis of literature- Prevalence, aetiology & best treatment responses. (1998-2000)

Child Protection Practices in Ireland- Results of study showed that there is no uniform approach to investigative interviewing in suspect child abuses cases in Ireland with the Police & Health Service (social workers & psychologists). (1998-2000)

### **Postgraduate Research**

The Relationship Between Self-Esteem and Language Disorder In Children (1994-1997)

### **Undergraduate Research**

Infant Feeding: Women's attitudes to breast-feeding vs. bottle-feeding since 1960's following the arrival of formula feeds. (1987-1990)