



CURRICULUM VITAE

Alexandra Joy

Independent Social Work Assessment and Consultancy Limited

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Current Enhanced DBS

Profile:

Alexandra is an experienced Social Worker who has 16 years of experience in working with Children and Families, specifically, Child Protection, Public Law Outline and Care Proceedings. Alexandra is able to work proactively with families and professionals, maintaining a focus on the needs and voice of the child. Alexandra uses clear and direct methods with families to ensure transparency and successful working relationships. Alexandra has extensive experience in completing assessments that are evidenced based, balanced and analytical within the required timescales.

Alexandra has worked with children who have suffered significant neglect and emotional abuse as well as those who have been victims of non-accidental injury and physical abuse and a number of children who have suffered sexual abuse throughout her career.

Alexandra has extensive experience of working with parents with substance misuse, significant mental health and domestic abuse. Alexandra is skilled in engaging parents to discuss their issues and consider the impact these have on their parenting capacity and their children's own safety and wellbeing.

Social Work Career:

Alexandra qualified as a Social Worker in 2007 and since this time has been employed in a number of statutory roles within Local Authorities. Alexandra has worked in Child in Need Teams, Child Protection and Court Proceedings Team and more recently in a Family Safeguarding Service.

Alexandra's career has primarily been within teams that work with children and their families when they are either subject to a Child Protection Plan, PLO or care proceedings. Alexandra has extensive experience in working with parents who have significant challenges in respect of their parenting capacity and their children.

Alexandra has extensive experience in completing a range of assessments including;

- Child and Family Assessments for children subject to Child Protection Plans,
- sec.7 and sec.37 reports for children subject to private court applications,
- Risk Assessments for contact,
- Viability Assessment, reg.24 assessments and Special Guardianship Assessments,
- Parenting Assessments,
- Final Evidence and Care Plans

In her roles within Child Protection and Care Proceedings Team, Alexandra has gained experience in working with families who have complex issues, including parents with substance misuse issues, additional mental health needs and are both the victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse. Alexandra is able to work with parents in an open and transparent way to build positive relationships and complete thorough and accurate assessments, ensuring that parents feel they are involved in decision making and understand why recommendations have been in respect of their children.

As part of her role Alexandra has worked in close partnership with other professionals to help inform risk assessments and care planning. These include education professionals, police, probation and health professionals as well as being able to consider expert assessments within her care planning and decision making. In her family safeguarding role, Alexandra has focussed on the importance of support and intervention for families, utilising extended family members and friends to try and keep children within their network.

Alexandra has extensive experience in assessment and care planning for children within care proceedings. Alexandra's practice always focusses on providing parents with advice, guidance, support and intervention to give them every opportunity to safely care for their

children before alternative care arrangements are considered. Alexandra is able to think creatively in respect of children's long term care arrangements and ensures decisions and recommendations are always made the children's best interests at the centre, with their wishes and feelings being taken into consideration.

Qualifications:

2002 11 GCSES achieved, George Abbot School, Guildford

2004 AS and A Levels in Psychology, Sociology and Communication Skills achieved.

2007 Bsc Hons Degree in Social Work from Portsmouth University

Training:

Alexandra has completed a range of additional training courses to enhance and strengthen her practice. These include:

- Motivational Interview Training
 - Family Safeguarding Training
 - Training in domestic abuse, mental health, drug and alcohol use
 - Court Work Skills Training
 - Graded Care Profile Training
 - Direct Work Training
 - Risk Assessment Training
 - I have delivered pre birth assessment training
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Employment History:

July 2023 to date – Independent Social Worker

January 2021 to date – Team Manager, North East Surrey Family Safeguarding Service, Surrey Children's Services.

September 2019 – January 2021 Team Manager, Kingston and Richmond Achieving for Children, Safeguarding Team.

July 2014 – September 2019 Team Manager, Surrey Children's Services, North West Child Protection and Proceedings Team.

April 2013 – July 2014 Team Manager, Surrey Children's Services, North West Child in Need Team.

December 2012 – April 2013 Team Manager (Secondment), Surrey Children's Services, North West Child Protection and Court Proceedings Team

April 2010 – December 2012 Social Worker Surrey Children's Services, North West Children's Protection and Proceedings Team

January 2008 – April 2010 Social Worker, Surrey Children's Services, Looked After Child and Court Proceedings Team.