



CURRICULUM VITAE

Alison Shell

Independent Social Work Assessment and Consultancy Limited

PO BOX 1069, CAMBERLEY, GU15 9PY

Contact Details and Professional Membership:

Email: admin@independent-sw.co.uk

Professional membership with BASW

SW England Registration: SW102085

Current Enhanced DBS

Profile: Ali is a qualified social worker with a passion for empowering and supporting individuals. She has always been a keen volunteer and have completed over 4000 hours voluntary work with charities, children and young people. She is an excellent communicator who has a proven record of engaging with hard to reach children, young people and families ensuring that they are always at the centre of her practice and advocated for. She is an outgoing, respectful and hard-working practitioner with a passion for completing person centred work.

Social Work Career:

Ali is currently employed as the designated social care officer (DSCO) in Bracknell Forest Council, where she has been in post since June 2023. This role spans across education, health and social care to act as an enabler for system change. Ali supports co-production and the position of parents whilst promoting the voices of children and young people. She ensures social care and SEND processes are increasingly aligned and allow for the early identification of children with SEND.

As an ISW Ali completes a number of tasks including supporting vulnerable families and supervising contact. Ali is able to support families promoting positive contact between children and their family whilst managing risks and having an awareness of the vulnerabilities and their needs.

Ali writes evidence based reports and holds the needs of the child at the forefront of her reports. She is able to appropriately challenge and manage risks and give a clear account of these within her reports.

Qualifications:

- 2008 - 11 A*- C GCSES, including English, Maths and Science.
- 2011- BTEC National diploma in Health and Social Care – Distinction Merit Merit Grade.
- 2014- BA Social Work Degree (2:1)
- 2016 - ASYE
- 2018- MSc Sociology and Social Policy (Merit) The core modules within this course are Quantitative Analysis, International Social Policy and Welfare, Public Policy and Democracy, Understanding Social Change and Philosophy of Social Science Research

Training:

Ali has completed a range of additional training courses to strengthen her professional development and practice. These include:

- Domestic abuse
- Safeguarding children with disabilities
- Disguised compliance
- Mental health first aid
- Assessing the needs of children, young people and their families

Employment History

June 2023 – Present Bracknell Forest Council, Designated Social Care Officer

Ali supports workforce development in relation to SEND and Social Care, working with commissioners to ensure the local offer addresses the social care needs of children and young people with SEND.

Ali completes a number of other tasks in this role including managing the short breaks service, supports social care staff throughout where there are children with SEND, she chair's core groups/CIN reviews, complete visits and support newly qualified staff and staff who need support understanding how best to support children and young people with SEND.

January 2021 – June 2023 Young Lives vs Cancer, Great Ormond Street Hospital

Ali worked for a charity called Young Lives vs Cancer in her role as a paediatric oncology Social Worker at Great Ormond Street Hospital. This was between January 2021 until June 2023. In this role Ali supported families with children who have a diagnosis of cancer and were being treated at Great Ormond Street

Hospital. Ali supported families to come to terms with the diagnosis and with the social impact of having a child going through cancer treatment. Here she would assess the needs and the impact of the family and using a family star would create a tailored plan of support which encompassed emotional, financial, practical and bereavement support. She also supported the hospital by providing support with safeguarding concerns and delivering safeguarding and supervision support to medical professionals.

October 2018 – January 2021 Social Worker Bracknell Forest Council

Ali worked as a front-line Social Worker, in the Referral and Assessment Team (18 months) and then Children Safeguarding Team (9 months, moving teams due to restructure). Ali further worked from Bracknell Forest within the Family Safeguarding Service and the Childrens Specialist Support Team (Children with disabilities).

Ali gained experience of completing initial assessments, supporting families on Child In Need and Child Protection Plans and care proceedings. Ali gain experience in completing Section 7 court reports as well as reports within care proceedings.

Ali worked with and supported families with issues such as; substance misuse, neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, mental health issues and disabilities. She also gained experience of private fostering assessments/arrangements, unaccompanied asylum seekers assessments and connected carer's assessments.

Ali has significant experience of working alongside the Children Act 1989/2004 and the Working Together to Safeguard Children Act, among other legislations.

September 2017- October 2018; Residential Support Worker, The Keys Group

Ali also completed a master's between 2017 and 2018, during this time she worked as a residential Support Worker at the Keys Group. During her time at The Keys Group, she worked with children who have significant learning and physical disabilities. Her role was to provide 1:1 personal care and support to the children in my care. Ensuring that their personal care and support needs are met.

June 2015 – September 2017; Children's Social Worker Hampshire County Council

During her time at Hampshire County Council Ali spent 18 months working in the Referral and Assessment team where she gained experience of completing S.17/S.47/S.7 assessments. This including working with domestic abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, neglect, substance misuse, disability, and unaccompanied asylum seekers. Hampshire County Council then went over to the CAST model of working which is where Ali gained experience long term CIN and CP Social Work.

During this time Ali completed her ASYE.

Oct 2013 –April 2015; Floating Support Worker for young people who were homeless, The Zone

Ali completed her third year Social Work placement and continued to work at The Zone for a further period of 12 months, maternity cover. Ali supported 16 – 25 year olds who were homeless or at risk of homelessness. She completed STAR needs assessments and implemented a support plan which aimed at educating and supporting young people to be able to develop independent living skills and reduce the risk of them becoming homelessness. Here Ali developed a great understanding into housing legislation and practice.