



## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

**AMY LINGENFELDER**

**Independent Social Work Assessment and Consultancy Limited**

**PO BOX 1069, CAMBERLEY, GU15 9PY**

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### **CONTACT DETAILS:**

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**SW registration nr: SW54217**

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### **Profile:**

Amy is a qualified Social Worker with over 10 years of post-qualification experience specialising in Child Protection, Care Proceedings, and Public Law Outline work. Currently, she is employed as a Senior Social Worker in a Family Help Team in Hampshire, where she provides support to families engaged in Child In Need and Child Protection plans, as well as managing complex cases within Care Proceedings.

From 2009 to 2018, Amy held various roles at Surrey County Council, progressing from Social Worker to Senior Social Worker and Team Manager. She is adept at conducting comprehensive and analytical assessments within established timelines, always prioritising the child's voice in her practice.

Amy has a focused interest in working with families facing challenges related to sexual abuse and chronic neglect. Her experience includes supporting parents with learning disabilities, engaging with families from the Gypsy and Traveller community, and conducting pre-birth assessments.

In 2018, Amy took a career break to dedicate time to her young children while also serving as a self-employed lettings manager. During this period, she actively sought opportunities for professional development through volunteering, learning, and formal study, ensuring she remained updated and prepared to re-enter Social Work practice with confidence and competence.

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## **Social Work Career**

After completing her Bachelor of Social Work degree in 2007 Amy registered as a Social Worker in Johannesburg South Africa in January 2008 whilst simultaneously starting research for her master's degree in social work. She worked as a Social Worker and Teaching Assistant at Edenvale High School from January 2008 for one year.

In December 2008 Amy came to the UK to work in various roles completing assessments within Adult and children's teams. This has given Amy knowledge in a variety of fields within social work. Amy has experience in completing a range of assessments including Initial and Core Assessments, Section 7 reports, pre-birth assessments, Section 47 Child Protection risk assessments, Care Plans and other statutory documentation including reports and evidence for the Courts.

Amy is experienced in working under pressure and has demonstrated skill and knowledge when applying for Emergency Protection Orders, working with the Police to safeguard children in emergency situations, negotiating with and supporting parents suffering from serious and acute mental health problems. Amy also has experience in investigating abuse in families over decades and across multiple counties. This assists Amy in her role as an ISW given the breadth of her knowledge and experience.

Amy is experienced and confident in providing evidence in Court as an expert witness. Amy has also worked with complex cases which include incarcerated parents, families who avoid Local Authority involvement by moving from county to county, inter-generational sexual abuse and chronic neglect. Amy has worked with children who have experienced serious non-accidental injuries, families who have removed their children from foster care to flee across international borders and cases which have required Fact Finding Hearings, and she has provided evidence remotely to courts in other countries.

Amy's experience extends to providing crucial evidence in court as an expert witness, showcasing an understanding of the legal and procedural aspects of child protection. Throughout her tenure in the child protection team, she has developed an in-depth understanding of the intricacies involved in navigating the legal system while ensuring the welfare and best interests of the children under consideration.

Amy has experience working with families which have several complicating issues and factors including chronic neglect, poverty, mental health issues with adults and children, substance misuse, domestic abuse and parental alienation.

Amy has recently completed Parent Assess training and accredited training in Parental Alienation.

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## **Qualifications**

### **2004 – 2008**

Bachelor of Social Work, Northwest University Potchefstroom.

### **2008 – 2010**

Master of Social Work, Northwest University Potchefstroom.

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## **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

### **January 2009 – March 2009**

Royal Borough of Chelsea and Kensington (contract)

Older Person's Team – Auxiliary Social Worker

**April 2009 – April 2010**

Surrey County Council

Qualified Social Worker, children and families' teams

**December 2010 to September 2018**

Surrey County Council, Child Protection and Care Proceedings Team:

Social Worker (2010 – 2013)

Senior Social Worker (2014 - 2016)

Assistant Team Manager (2016 – 2018)

**2019 – Present**

Self-employed as an Independent Social Worker as of November 2023.

Volunteering at a primary school twice a week to assist the ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) during the Young Carers Group. This entailed playing games and facilitating conversations with children who are young carers at home.

Self-employed as a tenancy and lettings manager for tenants in London Boroughs to ensure the well-being of tenants.

During COVID lockdowns Amy volunteered in her local community to ensure that disabled and elderly residents were regularly contacted to provide emotional support and to collect their groceries and prescriptions from the GP or pharmacy.

Currently employed as a locum social worker with Hampshire County Council as a Senior Social Worker in a Family Help Team since January 2024.

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**COURSES AND TRAINING** (not exhaustive)

- Parent Assess
  - Parental Alienation training
  - ABE ('Attaining Best Evidence') training with Surrey Police.
  - Signs of Safety: Working with Strengths and Solution Focus in a Risk Environment
  - Domestic Abuse training
  - Court Skills and legal framework training
  - Understanding Children and Young People's Mental Health training course
  - Critical Reflection on Professional Learning and Development – "Return to Social Work" course.
  - Domestic Abuse
  - Attachment Theory
  - Child Development
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