



CURRICULUM VITAE

Zach Hinckson

Independent Social Work Assessment and Consultancy Limited

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Contact Details and Professional Membership

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Professional membership with BASW

SW England Registration: SW119976

Current Enhanced DBS

Profile:

Zach is an experienced Social Worker who specialises in working with Children and Families, specifically those involved in Care Proceedings and work involving Contextual Safeguarding matters with both children and adults. Zach has over 15 years experience working with children and families. He is able to work pro-actively with families and professionals, whilst always maintaining his focus on the needs and voice of the child.

Zach has excellent direct working skills, using clear and transparent methods to build effective working relationships with families, ensuring the best outcome for the child is achieved. These skills are also transferred into evidenced based assessments completed to a high standard within the required timescales. He is experienced in providing written and oral evidence in Court.

Social Work Career:

Zach qualified as a Social Worker in 2016. Prior to this qualification he worked within education settings supporting children who were known to the Local Authority, working as a learning mentor and support worker. He gained a wealth of experience working with children and their families. Advocating for children and supporting them with a variety of experiences.

Since qualifying as a social worker, Zach has undertaken a variety of roles within the Local Authority and Charity sector including Looked After Children, Leaving Care and Contextual Safeguarding. Consequently, Zach has completed a range of assessments including Age Assessments, Parenting Assessment, Pathway Plans, Vulnerable Adolescent Risk Assessments, Special Guardianship Assessments including Viability Assessments and other statutory documentation including reports and evidence for the Courts.

Zach worked and later managed a contextual safeguarding team within a charity commissioned throughout London for 3 Years. In this role Zach trained as a specialist support worker working alongside social care, youth offending and probation, working with children up to the age of 18 who were at risk, or involved in contextual safeguarding matters. These included those involved in gangs, serious youth violence, harmful sexual behaviour and child sexual exploitation. In this role, Zach honed his direct working skills, undertaking direct work with a number of children and families and being the first choice within a number of local authorities to help manage these risks. In the latter time within this role Zach managed the team working across several Local Authorities in London, attending and chairing meetings with a range of professionals to successfully manage risks.

Zach has held a number of roles within the Care Planning service in a Local Authority. These include Social Worker, Senior Social Worker, and Team Manager. Zach began this journey in 2019 after leaving the charity sector. Zach has specialised in working within Looked After Children teams and Leaving Care services. During this time, Zach has worked on a number of complex cases including parents and children who have learning disabilities, substance and alcohol addictions, domestic abuse, children and parents with mental health issues, complex cases of long-term neglect and children who have experienced serious non-accidental injuries. Zach has worked in cases that have been through Care Proceedings, requiring Zach to present detailed reports, assessments and evidence to the court to develop plans for children and parents. Zach has proven experience within the Public Law Outline and is able to consistently work within these timescales and deadlines.

Zach has experience in providing oral evidence, and he is able to provide analytical and clear answers which reflect how situations and experiences impact on the child. Zach has worked on a number of cases providing reports where there are complex family dynamics, including domestic abuse, drug misuse, child and/or parental gang affiliation, criminalised behaviour, sexual harm within families, and parents with complex needs and vulnerabilities such as mental health needs and learning disabilities.

Zach has completed assessments where the individual's first language is not English, jointly working with interpreters. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Zach provide robust and analytical assessments both in person and remotely. This ability to work remotely, developing the same excellent results and assessments as in person, has proven a valuable skill in the years that have followed.

Qualifications:

2016 BA Hons in Social Work, University of Greenwich

2018 ASYE Social Work

2021 Practice Educator Diploma, University of West London

2024 Middle Management Programme, Frontline

Training:

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

- Safeguarding Training (up to date)
 - Data Protection (up to date)
 - Signs of Safety
 - Risk Assessments
 - Parenting assessments
 - Age assessments
 - Placement With Parent assessments
 - Violence Against Women and Girls
 - Relational Engagement
 - PREVENT (Radicalisation) Training
 - Positive Effect Enhancement
 - Self-care for professionals
 - Pathway Level 2 training
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Employment History:

Independent Social Worker (April 2023 – present) undertaking supervised contact and report writing for children and families. Zach has also worked alongside children's homes and semi-independent provisions supporting to upskill their staff ensuring they are providing the best possible care to the children they support.

Team Manager (March 2022 – present) of a Leaving Care team, overseeing the direct work of a number of professionals managing over 150 cases.

Senior Social Worker (February 2019 – March 2022) in a Care Planning and Permanency service completing care order court reports and other assessments determining a child's entry into care.

Team Manager (January 2018 – February 2019) managing a team of professionals undertaking direct work with vulnerable at risk children and young people.

Specialist Support Worker, (May 2017 – January 2018) in a charity specialising in contextual safeguarding matters in children and young adults.