**Sandy Gaskins - Curriculum Vitae**

**M.A. Couns, B.A. (Hons), C.Psychol, Csci, C.Q.S.W.,N.N.E.B.**

**AFBPsS, MEWI**

* **HCPC Registration No. PYL** **05776 and SWA 47197**
* **DBS Registration No. 001389653605**

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERTISE

**Professional Qualifications**

Chartered Counselling Psychologist

Certificate of Qualification in Social Work (CQSW)

National Nursery Examination Board (NNEB)

Cardiff University Bond Solon Accredited Expert Witness (Family)

Areas of Expertise

* Assessment of Adults and Children and Family Dynamics
* Domestic Violence
* Drug and Alcohol misuse
* Attachment and Bonding
* Learning Disabilities/difficulties
* Abuse & neglect – physical, emotional or sexual
* Assessment of Adults
* Assessment of children/parent-infant interactions

**Specialties**

* Use of interpreters including sign language for hearing impaired
* Eating disorders
* Autistic Spectrum Disorders
* PTSD
* Depression and Anxiety
* Elective Mutism
* Self-Harm/Suicidal Ideation
* Post-natal depression and Puerperal Psychosis
* Personality Disorder
* Assessment & Treatment of Complex Trauma and Abuse

I undertake independent assessments in a variety of areas and complete reports for the courts relating to children and parents or other family members, including family dynamics. I also carry out therapeutic work with adopted and long-term fostered children.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

I have worked with families for forty years in Day Nurseries, Nursery Schools, and schools for Children with profound physical disabilities and Special Needs.

I have worked with adults with Learning Difficulties and Physical Disabilities in a residential unit, and young people in Adolescent Psychiatric Hospital. My social work experience includes child and family cases in the High Court, paedophile rings, organised abuse and all types of Neglect, emotional, physical and sexual abuse, including assessment of ability to parent, capacity to parent and protect.

My work as a Chartered Psychologist has included study and experience of parent-infant relations and the transition from couple to parenting to promote positive attachments. I have worked as a trainer with Health Visitors, Midwives and Nursery Nurses and carried out research and training for the National Children’s Bureau.

As an Expert Witness I was commissioned to travel to New Zealand to support a client /witness in the Pitcairn Child Abuse Trials.

In my clinical work I provide therapy to children in foster and adoption placements, and trauma therapy assessment and treatment. This includes family therapy working towards reunification.

In my clinical work I provide therapy to children in foster and adoption placements, and trauma therapy assessment and treatment.

I take seriously my responsibility to continue my professional development in Child and Family / Therapy matters and my role as an Expert Witness. I regularly attend Bond Solon Annual Conferences.

REPORTS

I have prepared more than 500 reports for the **family courts.** These reports have covered the following areas:

* Public Law assessments of children and adults
* Private Law assessments of children and adults
* Assessment of Family Dynamics and Attachments
* Assessment of Ability and/or Capacity to Parent/Protect
* Assessment of parent’s ability to change
* Assessment of sibling bonding and attachment
* Assessment of parent attachment and bonding
* Assessment of families involving drug and alcohol abuse
* Assessment of families in which there is domestic violence.
* Personality disorders and mental health effect on parenting

I have given verbal evidence on approximately 12 cases over the last year.

QUALIFICATIONS, TRAINING

**Qualifications**

* Chartered Counselling Psychologist, British Psychological Society - 1998
* M.A. Counselling, University of Manchester – 1996
* B.A. (Hons) Psychology – Open University – 1987
* Cardiff University accredited Expert Witness (Family) – 2003 & 2010
* Advanced Diploma in Counselling, Manchester University - 1993
* Certificate of Qualification in Social Work – Hertfordshire –1988
* Nursery Nurses Examination Board – Hertfordshire.

**Training**

* Accredited Psychometric Test Administrator – Level A and B (ASE)
* Advanced Diploma in Counselling – University of Manchester
* PIPPIN Diploma – Parent-Infant Relationship - 2000
* National Family Mediation Training - 2012
* Masterclass in Report Writing, Bond Solon - 2012

**Trauma**

* Major Incident Debriefing – National Trauma Centre Yorkshire - 1995
* Treatment of Type I and Type II Trauma – Oxford Trauma Centre – 2003
* Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing (EMDR) Part I.

**Eating Disorders**

* **Master Practitioner in Eating Disorders & Obesity, National Centre for Eating Disorders** (NCFED) Diplomas in Basic Eating Disorders (Anorexia & Bulimia), Binge eating, Overweight and Obesity, Eating Disorders in Children, Nutritional Interventions, Compulsive Eating, & Bariatric Surgery (96 hours) – 2010

**Attachment**

* Assessment of Parental Insightfulness, WAIMH Paris 2005
* Story Stem Assessments, Anna Freud Centre - 2007
* Personality Disorder & Parenting, Anna Freud Centre - 2011
* ‘Moving Baby’ Attachment and Trauma in Babies placed in foster and adoptive care, The Tavistock – 2012

**Recent CPD**

* 2013 Essential Legal Knowledge
* 2013 Masterclass in Report Writing
* 2014 Bond Solon Annual Conference
* 2015 Solution Focussed Mediation
* 2015 Bond Solon Annual Conference
* 2015 Family Futures Sibling Placement
* 2018 GDPR, Bond Solon
* 2018 Attachment & Trauma, Personality Development & Psychotherapy ISC
* 2020 Intro to Understanding the Meaning of the Child (MotC)

MEMBERSHIPS & PUBLICATIONS

**Professional Memberships**

* Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society (AFBPS) Registration number: 21614
* Registered Counselling Psychologist with the Health Care Professions Council PYL0 5776
* Registered Social Worker with Social Work England SW 47197
* Member of the Expert Witness Institute

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

* I have full enhanced DBS clearance
* I hold personal professional indemnity insurance.
* I have a clean driving licence