



**Dr Rachel Edwards B.Sc., D.Clin.Psych., MSc.,
Chartered Clinical Psychologist**



Health Professions Council Registration: **PYL03872**

Dr Rachel Edwards is a Chartered Clinical Psychologist with eleven years post-qualification experience in mental health, forensic mental health and prison settings. She provides assessments and therapeutic intervention for adults and adolescents presenting with a range of mental health diagnoses, developmental difficulties, personality and learning difficulties. She is trained and experienced in evidence-based risk assessment tools. She is currently working as an expert witness to the Criminal, Family and Civil Courts and has completed expert witness training.

CRIMINAL LAW EXPERTISE

- Experience of work with male adult and adolescent offenders in prison and forensic mental health.
- Expert in the use of evidence-based risk assessment methods to assess criminogenic risk.
- Assessment of child sexual offending adults and adolescents (Armadillo Risk Assessment).
- Risk assessment of violence, domestic violence and (adult) sexual violence.
- Assessment of risk factors including substance misuse, mental health and personality disorder
- Mental capacity and assessments of learning disability.

FAMILY LAW EXPERTISE

- Expertise in the assessment of parental risk and the psychological factors associated with harm to children.
- Expertise in parents with developmental trauma, personality disorder, mental health problems and substance abuse.
- Assessments of parents and adolescents with developmental disorders including the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule.
- Experience in conducting mental capacity assessments around decision making amongst adult learning-disabled population.

CIVIL LAW EXPERTISE

- She has specialist training and experience in the assessment of acute adult trauma, PTSD and catastrophic events for adults and adolescents.
- She treats the victims of trauma using evidence-based interventions in her busy private practice.

THERAPEUTIC EXPERTISE

- Expertise in the treatment of a range of a broad range of psychological issues using evidence-based models of therapy (CBT; DBT; MBT).

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- Experience in the design and implementation of group therapy.
 - Expertise in the provision of consultation and supervision to other professionals regarding formulation and treatment of individuals with mental health or personality issues.

WORK HISTORY

2016 – 17 Highly Specialised Clinical Psychologist, Mental Health Team, HMP Woodhill, Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust

An in-reach Mental Health team providing multidisciplinary assessment and interventions for primary and secondary level mental health difficulties for individuals within a Category 'A' high secure, all-male prison.

2013 – 16 Highly Specialised Clinical Psychologist, Challenging Behaviour Team – Learning Disability Service, West Sussex County Council/Sussex Partnership NHS Trust.

A specialist multidisciplinary team within the wider community learning disabilities service working with individuals (and their carers) who present with complex or high risk challenging / offending behaviours.

2007 – 13 Highly Specialised Clinical Psychologist, Neurodevelopmental Disorders Service, Bethlem Royal Hospital, South London and Maudsley NHS Trust

NDS is an inpatient unit for individuals presenting with mild/borderline learning disability and challenging behaviour. Most service users have dual diagnosis (e.g. psychosis; personality disorder) and / or autistic spectrum disorder.

2006 – 07 Specialist Clinical Psychologist, Hammersmith and Fulham PCT Learning Disability Service

2002 – 05 Trainee Clinical Psychologist, University College London & Camden & Islington NHS Mental Health Trust

- Outpatient service for individuals suffering from severe mental health problems.
- Adult mental health service providing assessment and intervention.
- Child and family service (tier 2). Working with children up to the age of 11 and their families.
- Community learning disability service.
- Forensic medium and low secure service. Detailed assessment and intervention for personality and cognitive functioning, as well as risk assessments in this secure setting.
- Older adults' community service providing assessments of dementia, and therapeutic intervention for a range of psychological difficulties for adults over 65.

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

2004 – 05 Doctor of Clinical Psychology (DClinPsy), University College London

2000 – 01 MSc Health Psychology, University College London

1994 – 97 BSc Psychology (2i), Leeds University

SPECIALIST TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2017 Expert Witness training, Level 2 (BPS)

2009/16 Historical, Clinical Risk Management (HCR 20) Version 3

- 2013 Assessment of Risk & Manageability for Individuals with Developmental & Intellectual Limitations who Offend Sexually (ARMIDILO-S)
- 2011 WAIS IV (one day workshop, South London & Maudsley NHS Trust)
- 2011 BPS Supervisor Workshops 1&2 (Salomons, BPS)
- 2011 Expert Witness Training Level 1 (BPS)
- 2010 Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS)
- 2009 Introduction to Acceptance & Commitment Therapy – ACT (one day workshop)
- 2008 CBT for Trauma in Psychosis (one day workshop, IOP)