



**Dr Alexander Drake**  
DClinPsy, MSc, BSc.  
**Clinical Psychologist**



Health Professions Council Registration: **PYL37813**

Dr Alexander Drake is an HCPC registered clinical psychologist who specialises in expert opinion. He has worked in adult and older adult mental health, substance misuse, learning disability, neurorehabilitation, functional neurology, and neuropsychology. He is interested in assessment, the unconscious expression of psychological distress through the body (e.g. pain, fatigue, FND), and anxiety.

Dr Drake offers rapid and high-quality assessments of psychology, cognition and mental capacity. He is skilled at identifying and describing for non-mental health professionals the contributory factors in a person's presentation and providing detailed, precise recommendations for assisting that person to ensure they perform at their best.

A passionate learner, winner of two university prizes and published academic author (including a paper examining the complexities of capacity assessment), Dr Drake continues to refine his understanding of human psychology so he can provide the highest quality professional service.

#### **AREAS OF SPECIALISM**

- Assessment (including functional, therapy, capacity, risk, cognitive, mental capacity and neuropsychological) and reports with case-by-case recommendations.
- Therapy for common and severe mental health problems within the adult and older adult populations using a range of approaches, including cognitive behavioural therapy, cognitive analytical therapy, motivational interviewing, and intensive short-term dynamic psychotherapy.
- Skilled group facilitator of both therapeutic groups and various professional groups such as case discussion, group formulation, and reflective practice.
- Sustained research interest and understanding of the practicalities of conducting social sciences research – design, methodological issues, and research ethics – that add valuable research skills to both clinical and research teams. Knowledge of advanced quantitative techniques such as general linear modelling, latent profile analysis, and machine learning.

#### **PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

<b>2019 – 2019</b>	DClinPsy Clinical Psychology, University of Exeter – Pass
<b>2013 – 2015</b>	MSc Research Methods in Psychology, University of Bristol – Distinction
<b>2005 – 2008</b>	BSc (Hons) Psychology, Manchester Metropolitan University – 2:1

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## WORK HISTORY

**Sep 2020 – Present      Psychology Associates – Expert Witness, Associate Clinical Psychologist, FT**

Provide cognitive and capacity assessments for family court care proceedings, producing reports with tailored recommendations to assist the court to maximise the participation of parents with diagnosed and suspected learning disability, mental health problems, and substance misuse.

**Jan 2020 – Apr 2021      Devon Partnership NHS Trust – Older Adult Psychology, Clinical Psychologist, 0.5 WTE**

Independently assess and treat older adults with severe and enduring mental health problems; provide neuropsychological assessments to the Devon Memory Service to provide differential diagnosis in dementia assessments; support the local community mental health team via multidisciplinary meetings, individual and group case discussions and consultations, training, and reflective practice groups; contribute to service development within the older adult psychology service and undertake project work as required.

**Oct 2019 – Dec 2019      Personal Development**

**Sep 2016 – Sep 2019      Taunton and Musgrove NHS Foundation Trust, Trainee Clinical Psychologist, FT**

Undertake a structured programme of learning including personal study, academic work, research, placement learning and assessment. Conduct specialised psychological assessments, treatments and other types of clinical interventions with individual clients, carers, families, and groups of clients; staff training; research; and service development. Placement activities include: therapy assessment; eligibility assessment; risk assessment (structured [HCR-20] and unstructured); functional assessment; dementia, autism, and neuropsychological assessment (WAIS, WMS, DKEFS, TOPF, GNT, RBANS); formulation; team formulation; one-to-one psychological interventions (psychoeducation, CBT, DBT, CAT, ISTDP); indirect interventions with carers, staff, and family; staff consultation (DBT consults); staff training (mental capacity act, self-harm in young people, unusual sexual behaviour in autism), providing supervision (qualified counsellor, assistant psychologist, 3rd year undergraduate), and service development (initiating reflective practice group, commissioning initiative).

## SPECIALIST TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Introducing Working Memory	2 hours
WAIS IV Interpretation Training	1 day
Understanding ACEs and Early Childhood Trauma	1 day
Giving Expert Opinion and Testimony	1 day
Statistician Advice for RECs	1 day
Autism Assessment and Management – NICE Guidelines	1 day
Advanced Interagency Child Protection	1 day
Sleep Disorders	1 day
Mental Capacity Act in Practice	1 day
Neuropsychological Assessment of People Who Have Intellectual Disabilities	1 day
NRES Statistics Training for NRES REC Members	1 day
Writing in the Sciences	10 days

### ACHIEVEMENTS AND PRIZES

**2015      Research Project Prize, University of Bristol**

Joint winner for best MSc dissertation among all (~50) psychology MSc students

**2015      Bronze Public Engagement Award, University of Bristol**

Awarded for my science outreach in local primary schools promoting psychology and STEM subjects

### PUBLICATIONS

- **Drake, A. C. L.**, Hank, D., Edwards, R., Ensum, I. & Bateman, L. (2018). The bounds of liberty: Lessons learnt from treating a man with alcohol use disorder, autism and learning disability, *Tizard Learning Disability Review*, 23(1), 27-34. [doi.org/10.1108/TLDR-01-2017-0007](https://doi.org/10.1108/TLDR-01-2017-0007)
- Brunstrom, J.M., **Drake, A. C. L.**, Forde, C.G., Rogers, P. J. (2018). Undervalued and ignored: Are humans poorly adapted to energy-dense foods? *Appetite*, 120, 589-595. [doi.org/10.1016/j.appet.2017.10.015](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.appet.2017.10.015).
- **Drake, A. C. L.** (2016, February). Humans Cannot Accurately Estimate Food Calorie Content. Poster session presented at the annual conference of the Health Professionals Public Health Network, Welwyn Garden City, England.
- Leonards, U., Fennell, J.G., Oliva, G., **Drake, A. C. L.**, Redmill, D.W. (2015). Treacherous Pavements: Paving Slab Patterns Modify Intended Walking Directions. *PLoS ONE* 10(6). [doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0130034](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0130034)