



## **Debbie Johnson**

*Brain Injury Case Manager*

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### **Professional Background: Health and Social Care**

I graduated as a Social Worker in 2008. Since graduation, I have worked in a wide variety of settings which have included residential, Youth Offending institutions and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services. I have worked in both Local Authority settings and within a Regional Adoption Agency. In this role, I specialised in supporting children, young people and families working towards fostering and adoption. I have considerable experience and expertise in undertaking complex child / young person / family needs assessments.

In addition, I have considerable experience and expertise in developing detailed care and support plans and reviewing their effectiveness. I am skilled and experienced in leading multidisciplinary teams and in ensuring detailed outcome measurements are implemented to evidence clinical effectiveness and cost-effective outcomes.

I have significant experience of writing reports for the Court and in appearing as a witness of fact, within proceedings in the Court.

I have a wide depth and range of experience and knowledge of children and young people who have experienced neurotrauma. As such, I also have detailed knowledge and experience in managing complex neurodevelopmental disorders and acquired brain injury in both children and young adults.

I have experience of collaborating with the NHS, Local Authority, clinicians including medical and nursing colleagues, therapy staff, support workers and Case Managers. I am able to form excellent working relationships with colleagues to achieve the best outcomes for my clients.

I have extensive experience in supervising staff within a wide variety of grades and I am skilled in providing effective staff supervision and assisting with training and staff development planning.

I have a depth and breadth of skills and experience in ensuring that staff under my supervision maintain accurate and detailed records appropriate to their tasks and job descriptions. I have acted as a trainer for families and a wide variety of professional colleagues who were involved within the fostering and adoption processes.

I have experience of working with Education colleagues and have participated in multiple OFSTED inspections. I have considerable experience of participating within safeguarding assessments and proceedings and a sound understanding of legislation and current policies.

I have an empathic, person-centred approach to supporting children, young people and their families, advocating strongly in the best interests of the client. I have excellent communication skills in all situations. I organise all tasks efficiently, including setting up client care and support plans, taking an active role in meetings and assessment of situations. I am experienced at preparing detailed costing justification documents for a wide variety of external professionals.

A central aspect of my practice is the formation and nurturing of excellent professional relationships. I pride myself on my ability to establish trust in order to develop and maintain positive working relationships with clients, families and professionals. I am confident in working with highly complex and challenging situations.

I am experienced in implementing, managing and maintaining databases that hold information on both staff and clients, ensuring they are accurate and kept up to date. This is often very sensitive information which has to be handled in line with GDPR regulations. I have to ensure my reports, support plans and supervisions are all written and stored following these guidelines.

I respect and appreciate the demands and pressures placed on families when they have a child with additional needs. I take time to listen, to form good working relationships, and to actively support finding solutions that can be sustained. I very much enjoy working with families and enabling them to find the right team in order to achieve their long term goals and aspirations.

### Professional Qualifications:

- BA (Hons) Social Work
- BSc (Hons) PE/Sports Science, Health Science and Psychology