

# DR GEMMA FOAT-SMITH

## Principal Clinical Psychologist

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I am a HCPC-registered Clinical Psychologist specialising in Paediatric Neuropsychology, with over 10 years' experience supporting children and young people with neurological conditions and complex psychological needs. I have particular expertise in neuropsychological assessment, formulation and intervention following acquired brain injury and other neurological disorders (including spinal cord injuries, stroke, demyelinating disorders, rare neuro-genetic disorders and acute neurological disorders). In my NHS role at Alder Hey Children's Hospital, I work within the Neurorehabilitation Service supporting young people and families from acute admission through to community reintegration, working systemically with families, education settings and multidisciplinary teams. I provide children and families with emotional and cognitive support, including supporting post-traumatic stress related difficulties. I also provide supervision, consultation training and debriefs to neuro-rehab therapy teams.

**Locations:** Liverpool and surrounding areas

**Consulting Rooms:** The Chesters Centre for Wellbeing, 155 Briardale Road, L18 5EJ

### EXPERIENCE

2018 – 2025

**Highly Specialised Clinical Psychologist: Clinical Health Psychology**  
***Alder Hey Children's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust***

- Supporting young people and families during both inpatient and outpatient settings in a neuropsychological capacity.
- Providing psychological and neuropsychological assessment and intervention

2017 – 2018

**Clinical Psychologist: Lead Clinician in Paediatric ASD Team**  
***North West Boroughs Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust***

- Lead clinician working alongside clinical MDT in completing Autism assessments
- Liaison with allied professionals, report writing and supervision

2014 – 2017

**Trainee Clinical Psychologist: Lancaster University (2014 – 2017)**  
***Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust***

***North West Boroughs Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust***

- Specialist 12-month placement: Building Bonds, specialising in caregiver attachment based therapeutic assessment and intervention in the antenatal and post-natal period

***Alder Hey NHS Foundation Trust***

- Specialist 6-month placement: Clinical Health Psychology, specialising in neuropsychological assessment and intervention for acquired brain injury

## QUALIFICATIONS

- 2014 - 2017      **Doctorate in Clinical Psychology (ClinPsyD)**  
*Lancaster University*
- 2010 - 2011      **MSc in Forensic Psychology**  
*University of Central Lancaster*
- 2006 - 2009      **BSc in Psychology with Criminology (BSc with Honours)**  
*Liverpool John Moore's University*

## CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing (EMDR) Accredited Training (Part1-4)      2020
- Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (TF-CBT) Training (1 day)      2021
- ADOS-II Training (2 days)      2023
- 3-di Training (1 day)      2023
- EMDR Accredited Training Child & Adolescent Training      2025
- Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (TF-CBT) Training (2 days)      2025

## KEY SKILLS

- Paediatric Neuropsychology
- Assessment & Formulation
- Neurorehabilitation
- Emotional adjustment
- Trauma & Post-traumatic support
- Multidisciplinary support & consultation

## PUBLICATIONS

Abram, M., Awenat, Y., Byrne, R., Fin, M., Finlayson, S., Foat-Smith, G., Galarza, M., Haddock, G., Jackson, P., Lee, G., Melia, S., McCulla, J., Messham, L., Mulligan, J., Wardle, L. (2019) A pilot study exploring the utility of a 'therapeutic research group' intervention for people experiencing psychosis related difficulties. *Advances in Mental Health* 18(1):1-18. DOI: 10.1080/18387357.2019.1604070

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), registration number: PYL34749

## REFERENCES

- References available on request