

# DR SIMON BIRD BSC (HONS), D CLIN PSY

## PRINCIPAL CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST

Dr Simon Bird graduated from the Plymouth University clinical psychology doctoral training programme in 1999. Between 2000 and 2016 he worked in the North Bristol Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS), providing a wide range of clinical and consultation services to young people and their families. He was the senior clinical psychologist within the team between 2007 and 2016, and amongst other roles he held lead responsibility for co-ordinating services to adopted children and Children Looked After by the Local Authority. He regularly provided assessments that informed multi-agency planning for these children and young people, utilising relevant psychological theory to formulate their needs.

Dr Bird now takes a lead on the provision of psychology services to children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders across Bristol and South Gloucestershire, and is formally trained in the identification of these disorders. He specialises in assessment and therapeutic work with adolescents and young adults with mental health difficulties. He has experience of the majority of common mental health difficulties and has also worked with young people with learning disabilities, drug and alcohol dependency and complex developmental difficulties.

Dr Bird has undertaken medico-legal work on a private basis since 2001, and has to date prepared over 200 expert witness reports for criminal and civil proceedings, in both the child and adult arenas. He is skilled in the use of formal assessment tools used to address questions of capacity and responsibility, including cognitive assessments and mental health screening tools. He has extensive experience of interview-based assessments. Dr Bird's areas of specific expertise include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Assessments of attachment
- Autism Spectrum Conditions
- Substance misuse
- Mental capacity
- Personality profiles, and their relationship to parenting style and capacity
- Parental mental health
- Comprehensive child assessments

Dr Bird is eligible for chartered status through the British Psychological Society. He is regulated by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

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