



**POST-QUALIFYING**

SOCIAL WORK

PRACTICE

# Introducing Child Care Social Work

Contemporary Policy  
and Practice

JILL DAVEY  
JENNY BIGMORE

Series Editor: Keith Brown



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Contemporary Policy and Practice

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# Contents

Foreword to the Post-Qualifying Social Work Practice Series	vii
About the Authors	ix
About the Contributors	ix
Introduction	xi
<b>1</b> Child development	1
The impact of early abuse and trauma on the developing infant brain	2
Child development and disability	12
Child observation	16
<b>2</b> Ecological factors	19
Assessment issues for children with a disability	20
Working with unaccompanied asylum-seeking children and young people	31
<b>3</b> Legislation and social policy	42
Child care law and policy – a human rights perspective	44
‘No legal place to stay’ – issues for Gypsy and Traveller children	54
<b>4</b> Evidence-based practice and managing the professional task	68
Service delivery to parents with learning disabilities – a critical appraisal	69
Managing and supporting young people with sexually harmful behaviour	80
References	89
Index	101

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## *Foreword to the Post-Qualifying Social Work Practice series*

All the texts in the Post-Qualifying Social Work Practice series have been written by people with a passion for excellence in social work practice. They are primarily written for social workers who are undertaking post-qualifying social work awards, but will also be useful to any social worker who wants to consider up-to-date practice issues.

The books in this series are also of value to social work students as they are written to inform, inspire and develop social work practice.

Keith Brown

Series Editor

Centre for Post-Qualifying Social Work, Bournemouth



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## *About the authors*

**Jill Davey** has been a qualified social worker for over 25 years and holds a master's degree in practice teaching. During her career she has held both strategic and managerial positions in relation to child protection, including a regional advisor's role with the DfES. Jill has worked in both education and social services within the specialism of Child Care. Jill was invited to join Bournemouth University as a senior lecturer six years ago to take a lead in writing and developing the Post-Qualifying Child Care Award.

**Jennifer Bigmore** is the course leader for the Post-Qualifying BA (Hons)/Graduate Diploma in Children and Family Studies at Bournemouth University. Having completed a master's degree in social work studies at Southampton University, she worked as a social worker in both education and child protection before joining Bournemouth University to develop and deliver the Post-Qualifying Child Care Award.

## *About the contributors*

**Vanessa Bompfrey** is a social worker with many years of experience. She currently works for the Education Welfare Service and completed her Post-Qualifying Social Work Award in 2008.

**Janet Cheeseright** graduated from the University of Plymouth in 2002 with a BSc in Social Work and Social Policy with DipSW. She has been employed as a social worker within the Plymouth Youth Offending Service for the past seven years. Her role includes carrying out assessments of young people's criminogenic and other needs, and case-managing remand and bail support cases, community sentences and pre- and post-release supervision. She also prepares pre-sentence reports for Crown and Youth Courts. She has a varied caseload, working with both high and medium risk offenders.

**Andrew Chipangura** qualified as a social worker in 1988 in Zimbabwe and has worked in both the government and private sectors. He started work in the UK as a child care social worker. Andrew completed his Post-Qualifying Social Work Award in 2006. He is currently working in a field child care social work team and is studying for a diploma in employment law.

**Mike Coleman** qualified as a social worker in 2003 and completed his Post-Qualifying Social Work Award in 2006. Mike has worked for the local authority, primarily in child protection and court work, and he has recently begun working as a family court advisor for CAFCASS.

**Denise Jackson** is a practice manager employed by Cornwall's Children, Young People and Families Directorate and has worked with the Risk Assessment and Support Team since its inception in 2002. Denise is a registered social worker with 20 years' experience. Previous employment has been within the voluntary sector (Barnardo's) and as an independent therapist and trainer with the Lucy Faithfull Foundation, a leading UK

charity working in the field of sexual aggression. Denise is also an expert witness to the courts.

**Mary Jones** began her social work career in the 1970s, completing a BSc in Psychology and Sociology at Brunel University in 1972. She completed an MA in Criminology at Sheffield University in 1975 and the CQSW at Sheffield University in 1978. Mary completed her Post-Qualifying Child Care Award in 2005. Her professional experience includes residential work in a girls' remand centre, a Rudolph Steiner School and a hostel for children with learning disabilities, as well as generic fieldwork in the West Riding of Yorkshire and ten years in Sheffield. She is currently senior social worker in a children in care team in Cornwall, where she has worked with children and families since 1988.

**Yvonne Mieville** is an experienced social worker working for Dorset County Council. She completed her Post-Qualifying Child Care Award in 2008 and is currently pursuing her studies at master's level. She plans to undertake a PhD in the future.

**Steven Mills** is an experienced social worker, currently working for Bournemouth Borough Council. Steven completed his Post-Qualifying Child Care Award in 2009.

**Liz Reilly** qualified as a social worker in 1999 after completing a graduate course in social work at the University of Bristol. She also completed a master's in Social Work at the same university, graduating in 2000. Before, during and after qualifying she worked with young people 'in and leaving care', and in various levels of supported and semi-independent living. In particular, she worked as a social worker and a deputy manager for North Somerset Council's Leaving Care Service. Since October 2008, Liz has been studying for the Post-Qualifying Specialist Child Care Award and, at the same time, is working as a social worker in an assessment team. Other interests include community-based social work, Family Group Conference models of engaging families and, more recently, about the development of social work as a technical activity.

**Hilary Schultess-Young** qualified 13 years ago and has practised in Cornwall County Council's Social Care Department since that time. She has held a number of posts in children's services including Youth Offending, Access and Assessment and, as a specialist worker, with Gypsies and Travellers. Hilary is currently a specialist Hidden Harm social worker, piloting a project for the local authority which provides intensive intervention work with families and addresses parental substance use issues and their impact upon children and young people subject to a child protection plan or in care.

**Trevor Thomas** qualified as a social worker in 1988 and started his practice as a deputy social worker for Worcester County Council where he gained invaluable experience in child protection. In 2003, Trevor relocated to the then North Cornwall children's team, working across access and assessment as well as working with long-term cases. Upon completion of the Post-Qualifying Child Care Award, Trevor became practice manager within his team with responsibilities for access and assessment. Trevor now works as an independent reviewing manager for Cornwall County Council, reviewing the cases of children in care and chairing child protection conferences.

**Andrea Wilkinson** has been a qualified social worker for the last seven years. She started her social work career working in adult social care which, prior to 2005, met the needs of both adults and children with learning disabilities in Cornwall. She worked predominantly with disabled children, children with complex needs and children with life-limiting illnesses at this time. In 2005, Disabled Children in Cornwall became part of children's services and children no longer had their needs met within adult teams. Instead, Community Support Teams were formed to meet the needs of children with disabilities. Andrea is due to take up a new role within Children, Schools and Families Services in Cornwall in the post of Senior Social Worker Disability Lead in the access and assessment team.

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