

# Brenda Louise Atkin

+44 (0) 78144 62483  
attachmentmattersmanchester@gmail.com

---

## Medico-legal Experience

In the last 12 years I have undertaken assessments of children involved in both care proceedings and the criminal justice system in the U.K. This can include mental health and risk assessment, overall needs assessment and specific assessments such as assessment of attachment, placement and contact needs or fitness to plead. In the Republic of Ireland I provided psychiatric assessments and was an expert witness to the High Court with regard to young offenders and at risk young people in secure accommodation.

---

## Special Skills

I have extensive clinical experience of assessment and treatment of a wide range of mental health disorders in children and young people. These include emotional and behavioural disorders and developmental disorders such as Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) or Attention Deficit Disorder (ADHD). I have an interest in young people with complex needs that require multi-agency responses. This interest has developed further through my work with Looked After Children, The Manchester Federation of EBSD Schools and Youth Offending Teams, as well as in my current post with Care in Mind.

I have undertaken extensive training in the Dynamic Maturational Model of attachment (DMM) and I am trained to administer and code the School Age Assessment of Attachment Interview (SAA), to administer the Parent's Interview and the Adult Attachment Interview (AAI).

Section 12 approved doctor (Mental Health Act 1983)

I regularly present at conferences and train other professionals on child mental health and specifically attachment.

---

## Education

### QUALIFICATIONS

- **MB ChB** (Manchester University) 1988
- **MRCPsych** 1993
- **MSc** (Manchester University) 1996

### TRAINING

- Post graduate training in Paediatrics and Psychiatry in Greater Manchester
  - Certificate of Family Counselling
  - Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS)
  - Dynamic Maturational model (DMM) assessments of attachment
  - Registered and up to date with Royal College of Psychiatrists CPD requirements
- 

## Professional Affiliations

MRCPSYCH  
Member of Association for Child and Adolescent Mental Health (ACAMH)  
Member of International Association for Study of Attachment (IASA)

## Recent Appointments

### **PRESENT APPOINTMENT** (Since May 2016)

#### CONSULTANT ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRIST FOR CARE IN MIND

Provide psychiatry as part of multi-disciplinary team that supports young people aged 16 – 25 years in residential settings who have complex mental health needs and have spent significant periods of time in hospital or secure care.

### **PREVIOUS APPOINTMENT** (May 2006 – April 2016)

#### CONSULTANT CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRIST (8 PA POST) CENTRAL MANCHESTER AND MANCHESTER CHILDRENS' NHS & UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS TRUST.

#### CAROL KENDRICK CENTRE AND MANCHESTER CAMHS -LAC.

Shared consultant responsibility for district Tier 3 multi-disciplinary CAMHS providing assessment and treatment for range of disorders in children aged 0 – 18 years.

As well as routine clinical work, roles include providing clinical supervision of non-medical colleagues, member of multi-agency team for assessment of pervasive developmental disorders, liaison with educational services, paediatrics and social services. I am also involved with teaching, training and service development.

Lead Clinician for liaison and consultation with Youth Offending Team.

Lead Clinician for Eating Disorders.

---

## Referees

### **Mr A. J. Cryne**

Solicitor Advocate (High Court)  
Temperley Taylor Solicitors  
Durham House, Warwick Court  
Park Rd, Middleton  
M24 4EL  
T: 0161 643 2411  
F: 0161 655 3015  
Email: [ajc@temperleytaylor.co.uk](mailto:ajc@temperleytaylor.co.uk)

### **Dr. R. Marshall**

Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist  
Galaxy House  
Harrington Building  
RMCH  
M13 9WL  
T: 01617015026  
Email: [ruth.marshall@mft.nhs.uk](mailto:ruth.marshall@mft.nhs.uk)