



Curriculum Vitae

Sarah Acres

Advanced Practitioner Occupational Therapist

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Qualifications:

BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy (1995 University of Derby)

Memberships:

British Association of Occupational Therapy;

Health and Care Professions Council (registration number OT24919).

Professional Experience:

I qualified from the University of Derby in 1995.

My first position was at Fairfield General Hospital in Bury in September 1995 and completed rotations in elderly care and adult Neurology, gaining experience in the assessment of acute and longer-term clients and developing skills in neuro rehabilitation.

In 1996, I took up a Paediatric OT post in Rio Rancho, New Mexico, USA as a school-based therapist. This post developed my skills in assessing and treating school and pre-school aged children and treating them weekly to work towards educationally relevant goals. This post gave me excellent experience in the use of standardised testing as well as developing my clinical observation skills. It also enabled me to work closely with other therapy and education professionals as part of a multi-disciplinary team.

Following my return to the UK in 1997, I worked as a locum in a variety of Adult and Paediatric settings both in hospital and community settings.

Between 1997 and 1999, I worked at the Manchester Children's Hospitals, with children from 0-19 years in a variety of medical specialisms, including Burn Injury, Long Term Ventilation, Orthopaedics and Rheumatology. I helped to plan and participate in 5 Burns Camps. These camps allowed burn injured children to experience a residential stay and outdoor activities in the Lake District. This demonstrated the importance that fun activities can play in the rehabilitation process.

Following this post, I worked in Community Paediatrics in Manchester, Salford and Lancashire. I gained skills in postural management, functional equipment for children both at home and in educational settings and environmental adaptations.

From 2009-2014 I specialised in the assessment and treatment of pre-school aged children and was appointed Clinical Lead OT for early years. This post included training staff in screening and triaging pre-school aged children referred to the service, prioritising the urgency and type of assessment required, and selecting the appropriate grade of staff. I worked alongside the Professional Lead and other Lead Clinicians to redesign care pathways, develop and monitor outcome measures; build clinical networks and provide clinical leadership and supervision. I also had responsibilities for the assessment and treatment of a caseload of children with complex and/or additional needs who were prioritised as needing urgent input.

Since 2014, I have worked within the private sector, and have gained experience of medico-legal practices and expanded my clinical skills to work with Adults with Acquired Brain Injury.

From 2014-2015 I worked for Susan Pattison Therapy Services, based in Bury before moving to Rehabilitation for Independence as an advanced practitioner OT in October 2015. I left my post at RFI in June 2017 to set up Advance Occupational Therapy Ltd with my colleague Vickie Anderson.

I completed my Sensory integration Level 1 training in 2018, having worked alongside SI trained therapists for many years and wanting to develop my knowledge and skills further in this area, to a deeper level, and to recognise and develop guidance for clients with these difficulties, which have a profound effect on their everyday life.

I thoroughly enjoy working as part of a Rehabilitation Team using effective communication skills, verbally and written and clear goal setting, to enable my clients to work towards meaningful functional goals. I can use a range of standardised assessments, clinical observations and treatment mediums to enhance my assessment and treatment of children and adults.

Summary of Continued Professional Development

2018 Sensory Integration Level 1 (Sensory Integration Network)

2017 Cognitive Rehabilitation Workshop (Braintree Training)

2016 Train the Trainer Moving and Handling course (5 day)

2015 Inclusive technology information day

2012-2013 Appreciative Leadership Training 2012-2013 (LCFT & Fiona McNeil Associates)

2013 Root Cause Analysis (LCFT)

2012 Interactive Metronome Accredited Provider

2012 Interactive Metronome Advanced Paediatric Provider

2011 Care Aims

2011 Children's Assessment Framework Training

2011 Outcome Measures Training (LCFT POT)

2011 Makaton refresher

2008 Kennedy Soft Splint Workshop

2007 Chailey Approach to Postural Management

2000 Alert Programme (Sensory), "How does your Engine Run"

Career Positions

2017 to current

Director and Occupational Therapist at Advanced Occupational Therapy Ltd.

2017 to April 2018 Locum OT at Lancashire County Council (Adult Social Care) and Locum OT at Bury Council (Children's Social Care).

2015-2017 Advanced Practitioner Occupational Therapist at rehabilitation for Independence Ltd.

2014-2015 Occupational Therapist at Susan Pattison Therapy Services.

2013-2014 Clinical Lead OT in Early Years, Lancashire care Foundation Trust (LCFT).

2005-2013 Advanced Occupational Therapist in Community Paediatrics LCFT (previously East Lancs. PCT).

2004-2005 Locum Senior I Occupational Therapist, Preston Primary Care Trust, Community Paediatrics.

2002-2004 Senior II/Senior I Community Paediatrics, Salford Community Trust.

1999-2001 Senior I Occupational Therapist, Community Paediatrics, Mancunian Community Trust.

1997-1999 Senior II Occupational Therapist at Manchester Children's Hospitals Trust.

1996-1997 employed by Rio Rancho Public Schools in New Mexico, USA.

1995-1996 Basic Grade Occupational Therapist Fairfield General Hospital, Bury.