

Mediation Training

Role: Senior Counsellor, ACTS – working therapeutically with children and young people in, or at risk of, Special Care & Detention, alongside their families and professional networks.

Training: Completed the MII-accredited *Family (Separating Couples) Mediation Training Programme* with RoundTable. This 40 hour blended programme builds upon Certified Mediation training and is assessed through skills demonstrations, written assignments, and reflective learning, enabling progression toward specialised MII accreditation in family mediation.

Summary: As an accredited Psychotherapist working with complex family systems, I undertook this training to strengthen my ability to support parents and young people experiencing conflict, separation, and high-stress transitions. The programme deepened my knowledge of family systems, conflict dynamics, child-focused practice, domestic violence legislation, child protection procedures, family law, and the mediation process from first contact to agreement.

Key Learning: Developed advanced skills in managing high-conflict cases, de-escalation, facilitating difficult conversations, recognising risk and power imbalance, and supporting parents to create child-centred plans. Enhanced my ability to assess conflict styles, work safely and ethically within the Mediation Act 2017, and integrate mediation principles into therapeutic and systemic practice.

Application: This training has significantly enriched my work within ACTS, enabling a more structured, informed, and child-centred approach to family conflict. It has also prepared me to pursue further specialist training in child-inclusive mediation.

Acknowledgement: Grateful to FPSA for supporting my participation.