**Personal profile**

I am currently employed as a Senior Teaching Fellow three days a week. I qualified as a social worker in 1982 – I obtained an MSc Social Policy and Social Work Studies and a CQSW from LSE. I qualified as a practice teacher in 1993, obtained a PGCE in 1997, a PQ mentoring award in 1998 and an NVQ Assessors award in 1999. I also qualified as an Approved Social Worker in 1986.

I have 25 years’ experience of working as a social worker which include 6 years doing generic intake work and the rest of the time doing child and family work mainly in child protection. I was an LSCB trainer for 5 years. I am a freelance trainer with 16 years’ experience and deliver training on working with children and families as well as management skills. Other freelance work includes practice teaching, facilitating Action Learning Sets for LSCB managers and a range of practitioners, and also mentoring and assessing newly qualified social workers on the ASYE scheme.

I teach and have taught on a range of the MSc in social work modules/ courses including:- psychology, social policy, law, critical social work, child and family welfare, theories for social work, critical reflection. I have been the course co-coordinator for a number of courses and currently for psychology, child and family welfare and also critical social work. I have been the admissions tutor for 4 years.

I am currently studying for a Professional Doctorate and my research topic is how chairs of child protection conferences make decisions.

I studied Social work as an undergraduate at Hertfordshire in 1992. After qualifying I worked in mental health services, including positions working as a Social Worker in a Community Mental Health team and a Mental Health rehabilitation team. In 2000, I worked as a Forensic Mental Health Social Worker in a medium secure unit in West London. My work mainly consisted of preparing and presenting reports to the tribunal, working with a varied caseload of individuals who had offending histories, supervising individuals who fell under Home Office restrictions n the community. While in West London I worked as an assistant team manager for the Social Work team.

I studied my Masters in Social Policy and Administration at Brunel in 1999, specialising in comparative Social Policy.

As a Social Worker I completed Approved Social Work training in 2002 and practised in this role in a West London borough for a number of years. I also completed the Post graduate award in Social work in the 2002 and Practice Teaching award in 2004.  In 2009 I completed best interest assessor training under the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and worked as a best interests assessor.

I provide training services on occasion and have provided training to GP's and Psychiatrists around the role of the Approved Mental Health Professional and training to social care professionals on the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLs).

At Royal Holloway I teach on the MSc in Social Work. Areas of teaching include social policy, mental health, law, social work supervision, anti-oppressive practice and inter-professional and inter-agency practice.

My research interests include the mental capacity and marginalised groups, the role of the Approved Mental Health Professional and the Mental Health Act 1983 and the Deprivation of Liberty safeguards and early onset dementia.

My PhD focus is the Mental Capacity Act and BME groups.