



The OT Trainers

Specialist therapy & manual handling solutions

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LISA ALEXANDER

CAREER SUMMARY

I am a highly specialist occupational therapist with over 20 years' experience, primarily working in complex disability.

I am a clinical director of The OT Trainers, a company which provides specialist therapy and bespoke manual handling solutions. I qualified as a manual handling advisor in 2000 and since then, alongside my primary role, I have been a lead manual handling facilitator and risk assessor in every post that I have held. I attended the Edge train the trainer course in December 2016, where I renewed my academic skills in this area.

I have extensive experience in the assessment of complex seating and wheelchairs, specialist equipment, fine motor skills, handwriting, sensory needs, computer access and powered mobility potential; and I regularly work across agencies to ensure that identified needs are met. As well as my private practice, I work as a consultant occupational therapy expert witness, providing paediatric care and rehabilitation expert witness reports to the courts.

I have a current DBS registered with the DBS update service.

SKILLS & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Qualified manual handling advisor
- Highly skilled trainer in numerous subjects including manual handling, provision of a sensory diet, assistive technology and postural management
- High level of knowledge and experience in postural management and its application in complex disability
- Excellent ability in the assessment and prescription of wheelchairs and special seating
- Nominated by the Posture and Mobility Group (PMG) board to be the occupational therapy representative in the Department of Health faculty for modernisation of wheelchair services
- Lead Occupational Therapist in the use of sensory equipment with children who have complex needs.
- Highly articulate and confident, with the ability to motivate the wider team
- Wide, updated product knowledge
- Awarded "best Occupational Therapy Consultant in their second year of practice" at the Jacqueline Webb annual conference.

EXPERIENCE

THE OT TRAINERS, CLINICAL DIRECTOR

2017 to current day

The OT Trainers are insured by Balens specialist insurance brokers.

PRIVATE PRACTICE

2011 to current day

I have been working in private practice since 2011, specialising in working with children and young people who have complex needs. I complete assessments of complex seating, equipment for 24 hour postural management, high performance wheelchairs, personal care and sensory equipment, alongside providing manual handling assessment, creation of personal handling profiles and training for carers.

In addition to assessment, I complete sessional work focusing on acquisition of switch skills, access to computers, powered mobility, fine motor skills, handwriting skills and multisensory stimulation.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY EXPERT WITNESS, JACQUELINE WEBB & CO

April 2010 to current day

Responsible for preparing rehabilitation and care expert witness reports to the courts with a particular specialism in complex paediatrics.

BAND 7 HIGHLY SPECIALIST OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST, CHAILEY HERITAGE CLINICAL SERVICES

April 2012 to November 2014

In April 2012, I was promoted to a lead position within Chailey Heritage Clinical Services, where I was responsible for the in depth management of a small number of children who have highly specialist needs alongside being the lead Occupational Therapist in several outpatient clinics, including the posture clinic and switch, communication and mobility potential clinic. This involved assessing for and prescribing all complex seating, including moulded seats, assessing for and providing all other ADL equipment, carrying out individual sessions focusing on switch skills, computer access, powered mobility, fine motor skills, and multisensory stimulation.

Alongside my clinical role, I spent one year acting up as the joint professional lead of the services.

BAND 6 SENIOR SPECIALIST OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST, CHAILEY HERITAGE CLINICAL SERVICES

April 2006 to April 2012

In 2006 I gained a position at Chailey Heritage Clinical Services, a centre of excellence for children and young people with complex physical and learning disabilities.

As a band 6, I was responsible for a caseload of children with complex physical and learning disabilities and clinical lead in the posture clinic and switch, communication and mobility potential clinic.

CINICAL LEAD OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST, CARE MANAGEMENT GROUP

February 2005 to April 2006

The care management group is a private care home organisation with 80 homes for children and adults with complex health, physical and learning needs

I was responsible for providing individual multi-sensory therapy to a number of identified children; completing assessment for specialist seating and lying supports; advising on equipment needs in new build residential homes for young people with complex needs; creating personal handling profiles and individual risk assessments; delivering training in postural management, multisensory stimulation and manual handling.

CLINICAL LEAD OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST, BRIGHTON WHEELCHAIR SERVICES

September 2002 to February 2005

I was clinically responsible for a caseload of 5,500 clients providing complex seating systems and wheelchairs to children and adults of all ages.

During my time as clinical lead, I was nominated by Dr. Elizabeth Green of the Posture and Mobility Group board to be the occupational therapy representative in the Department of Health's modernisation of wheelchair services initiative.

TRAVELLING AROUND THE WORLD

December 2001 to August 2002

CLINICAL LEAD OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST, SPLIT POST

PAPWORTH WHEELCHAIR SERVICES / MANUAL HANDLING ADVISOR FOR THE ACUTE AND COMMUNITY TRUST

June 2000 to December 2001

I completed a master's level course in moving and handling at Southampton University to fulfill the position of manual handling advisor for the two trusts. Alongside this I was the clinical lead in the wheelchair and special seating service.

SENIOR 2 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST, SPLIT POST

COMMUNITY PAEDIATRICS / PAPWORTH WHEELCHAIR SERVICES

May 1999 to June 2000

BASIC GRADE ROTATIONS AT HINCHINGBROOKE HOSPITAL

September 1997 to May 1999

EDUCATION

SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY, BSC (HONS) 2.1 CLASS

2016 People Handling & Risk Assessment Key Trainers Certificate

2000 Post Graduate Diploma – Manual Handling, University of Southampton

1997 Bsc (Hons) 2.1 Occupational Therapy, University of Southampton
