



Mary Denman

Curriculum Vitae



Mary Denman Private Occupational Therapist PGDip Occupational Therapy

HCPC OT45507 | RCOT BT0804579

Make a Referral

Former Clinical Lead OT for West Berkshire School Years Services with over 15 years experience working with children and families with the most complex needs, including Assessment and complaint/tribunal cases. She provides OT services for Medico-Legal cases, Private Clients, Businesses, Charities, Local Authorities and Housing Associations.

Mary has extensive experience assessing and treating children presenting with the most complex needs across a spectrum of neurological conditions including Cerebral Palsy, Acquired Brain Injury and a wide range of degenerative and genetic conditions affecting function. She prides herself on being a friendly, compassionate therapist who focuses on the needs of the young people she works with, ensuring therapy and intervention is motivating and meaningful.

Prior to undertaking a Postgraduate Diploma in Occupational Therapy in 2003, Mary completed a degree in Education Studies. She therefore has a deep understanding of how important it is to work closely with schools to promote Occupational therapy as a means of increasing engagement in learning and play.

Mary has worked in clinic settings assessing and treating children with Developmental Coordination Disorder, Autism and ADHD, providing advice and recommendations for home and school to support development of handwriting, motor skills and adapting the environment to meet sensory needs. She has worked within mainstream and special schools assessing children for equipment such as specialist seating, bathing aids, slings and hoists and smaller items such as cutlery, kitchen aids and adaptive clothing.

She worked in senior management within the NHS for 12 years carrying out the most complex assessments and managing complaint/tribunal cases. This required close liaison with families, school staff, solicitors and other medical professionals. She has extensive experience writing and presenting training programmes including parent and school workshops about sensory processing and the impact this can have on learning and play, as well as a training package for the therapy team across Berkshire supporting their clinical reasoning and report writing skills. She is trained in using the COOP approach (Cognitive Orientation to Occupational Performance) which encourages problem solving to learn new skills and increase independence. She is also trained in the Alert Programme which uses strategies to help children recognise and manage their sensory needs at home and in school.

Mary has managed a school years therapy service, offering support and training to Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists and Speech therapists, with a focus on effective clinical reasoning, clear goal setting, meaningful intervention, and providing advice to families and schools which is clear, concise and jargon free.

Mary is an exceptionally experienced OT who is personable and approachable, dedicated to working with people to achieve their goals. She thrives on working with other professionals to ensure therapy is cohesive and integrated. Mary is described by her peers as a calming influence who is able to instil confidence in young people and their families.



The Right Clinician

Specialist skills for a Client's specific needs



The Right Provider

Est 2010 for high quality OT & SI Services



The Right Approach

Clinical Excellence before Profit

Primary Specialisms

Learning Difficulties OT, Mental Health & Neurodivergence OT, Neurorehabilitation OT, Paediatrics OT

Skills & Interventions

Aids & Equipment, Anxiety Management, Assistive Technologies, Challenging Behaviours Management & Support, Cognitive Rehabilitation, Fatigue Management, Functional Skills Training: Independent Living Skills (ILS), Activities of Daily (ADL) Living, Community Access, Housing Adaptations: Minor, Manual Handling, Mobility, Neurorehabilitation, Orthopaedic Injuries, Physical Rehabilitation, Postural Management, Sensory Assessment/Intervention, Sleep Hygiene, SMART Goal Setting & Reporting, Special Educational Needs (SEN): EHCP (Education Health & Care Plan), Individual Education Plan (IEP), Additional Learning Needs (ALN), Individual Development Plan (IDP), Coordinated Support Plan (CSP), Individualised Educational Programme (IEP), Specialist Seating, Splinting, Training, Upper Limb Rehabilitation, Vocational support: Return to Work or Education, Wheelchair Assessments

Special Interests

Cognitive Rehabilitation, Functional Skills Training: Independent Living Skills (ILS), Activities of Daily (ADL) Living,
Neurorehabilitation, Physical Rehabilitation

Conditions Supported

Developmental

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder ADHD, Autism/Autistic Spectrum Disorder ASD, Down Syndrome, Dyspraxia, Global Developmental Delay GDD, Learning Disability, Profound Multiple Learning Disabilities PMLD

Neurological

Acquired Brain Injury (Cerebral Palsy CP), Acquired Brain Injury (Stroke, Concussion, Aneurysm, Hypoxic or Anoxic Brain Injury, Tumour, Brain haemorrhage, Encephalitis), Erb's Palsy, Traumatic Brain Injury

Physiological

Amputation, Cancer, Catastrophic Injury, Orthopaedic Injury, Fractures, Visual Impairment

Psychological

Anxiety Disorders

Sensory

Sensory Processing Disorder SPD, Sensory Modulation Disorder SMD, Sensory-Based Motor Disorder SBMD, Sensory Discrimination Disorder

Service Sectors

Case Managers & Medicolegal, Private Clients, Individuals & Families, Schools & Colleges

Testimonial for Mary

" Mary is a practical, fun and caring OT. She is calm and approachable and always has the child and family in the centre of her thoughts and plans. Her years of experience make her someone you would want to take your child to see for a clear and honest evaluation."

Kathryn Stevenson

Lead Children's Occupational Therapist, Oxford Health

Education & Professional Qualifications

BA Hons Education Studies 2:1 2001

PGDip Occupational Therapy 2005

Employment History

December 2022- Today Occupational Therapist, The OT Centre

August 2022 - Today Specialist Paediatric Occupational therapist @ The Transforming Autism Project

This role has a focus on empowering parents and carers to understand the potential of their autistic children, and to transform their quality of life through play. The approach aims to support parents and carers to understand and celebrate the unique qualities of their child. Joint assessment and regular liaison with a Child Psychologist ensuring the holistic needs of the child and the family are considered. Following the completion of sessions, a detailed report and recommendations are completed with the Child Psychologist.

July 2020 - February 2023 Occupational Therapist @ Children's Integrated Therapies, Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

This was a fast paced assessment and treatment role working with children 0-18 in mainstream and special schools settings. The main responsibilities included carefully triaging referrals and liaising with families and professionals to provide a clear assessment of needs, work with staff and families to integrate activities into school and home life and providing clear, concise report and therapy programmes. Close liaison with other professionals and onward referrals were a vital part of the role to ensure a cohesive and joined up approach. Use of standardised and non-standardised assessment formed a vital part of the job, including handwriting assessment and intervention, Use of the COOP approach (Cognitive Orientation to Occupational Performance) to help children develop problem solving techniques to improve motor and functional skills. Attendance and feedback at a range of meetings including case conferences, Child In Need meetings and Annual Reviews was also an integral part of the role.

September 2019 - January 2020 Lead for School Years Services (OT/PT/SLT) @ Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

This role was an incredible experience which involved the development of a new integrated therapy service and a truly interdisciplinary team. As the lead for the school year's service, this involved working with local authorities, schools and stakeholders to develop a service within available resources, and to ensure the best possible outcomes for families. Supporting the development of new Standard Operating Procedures and pathways was also a critical part of the job, to provide clarity to the teams and to ensure equity was achieved across the county. A primary part of the role focused on supporting staff to write reports for Education Health Care Plans and preparing clear outcome focused reports and recommendations for tribunals. Dealing with more complex clinical cases was also a highlight of the role; being able to support families and carers to navigate difficult situations and offer second opinions where necessary. Assessments were clinic, school and home-based. Regular training was provided alongside other members of the management team to ensure staff were kept updated about changes and felt informed and able to feedback/be heard.

August 2008 - January 2019 Occupational Therapist @ Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

This post was a split management and clinical role. The management side of the post involved the development of a training programme for Berkshire Healthcare Integrated Therapy service to support effective clinical reasoning. This required excellent verbal and written skills and an ability to provide a flexible training programme which was tailored to the therapy staff in attendance. The training was also rolled out to wider teams including Local Education Authorities, Paediatricians and GP's, to educate them about the service and support them to make effective referrals. The clinical element of the role required the completion of standardised and non standardised assessment of motor and functional skills, assessing seating and equipment needs, ordering and fitting equipment and writing reports and recommendations which were then handed over to staff/families.

The OT Centre

Established 2010

Private Occupational Therapy and Sensory Integration Services for Individuals, Case Managers, Solicitors, Schools & Colleges, Businesses & The Public Sector



Expertise

Occupational Therapists vetted by our Clinical Director as specialists in their field.



Experience

Working with Case Managers, Solicitors and the Client MDT since 2010



Ethos

Remaining a family owned, family run practice putting clinical services, quality and integrity before profit.



Availability

Direct access to your T via Mobile Phone and online Call-Back Booking Service.

Secure Online Access to all aspects of our work, including Professional Reports, SMARTAAR Goal Plans, Goal-Scored Client Sessions and Client Appointment Schedules.



Clarity

Fully Costed Proposals for fixed periods of SMARTAAR goal-driven outcome focused therapy.

Quantifiable clinically justifiable interventions through Session by Session scored Outcome Reports and End-Term Treatment Review Reports.



Consistency

Best use of tools and technologies to provide a first-class service for our clients and our customers.

Custom built Apps make it easy for your OT to manage your client case, documentation, goal plans and reports, providing a clear framework for their clinical work.