



Katie Francis

Occupational Therapist

Professional Qualifications:

BSc (Hons), Occupational Therapy, Oxford Brookes, 2011

Certified Dynamic Movement Intervention practitioner (Level C)

Professional Memberships:

Royal College of Occupational Therapists

Health and Care Professionals Council

Personal Profile:

Katie is a highly experienced Senior Occupational Therapist with over 15 years of clinical experience across a wide range of settings, including the NHS, Local Authority services and the private sector. Whilst her career has included work with both adults and children with complex needs, Katie has developed particular expertise in paediatrics and now specialises in supporting infants, children and young people with complex developmental, neurological and physical needs. Her wider clinical background spans orthopaedics, neurorehabilitation, burns and plastics, intensive care, acute medicine and case management, providing her with a strong clinical foundation and a holistic understanding of rehabilitation across the lifespan.

Katie has extensive experience in the assessment and treatment of children from the early years through to adolescence, including those with neurodevelopmental conditions, acquired and traumatic brain injury, cerebral palsy, genetic conditions, developmental delay, complex orthopaedic presentations and sensory processing differences. She is highly skilled in undertaking comprehensive, play-based and functional assessments to identify strengths, barriers and therapeutic priorities, and in

developing creative, individualised rehabilitation programmes that support children to maximise their independence, participation and quality of life.

A key strength of Katie's practice is her ability to develop and implement rehabilitation programmes within a child's everyday environments. She works closely with families, early years settings, schools and wider multi-disciplinary teams to ensure therapy is embedded into daily routines and learning opportunities. Katie has significant experience liaising with nurseries, mainstream and specialist schools, and Local Authority services to support Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) processes, provide detailed recommendations, and ensure that therapeutic strategies are understood and consistently implemented across home and education settings. She is confident in delivering training and guidance to education staff and support workers, enabling them to safely and effectively support children with complex physical, sensory and functional needs.

Katie recognises the importance of early intervention and is passionate about initiating rehabilitation at the earliest possible stage to optimise long-term outcomes. She adopts a collaborative, family-centred approach, working in partnership with parents and carers to build confidence, develop practical strategies and empower them to support their child's development. She is particularly skilled at creating engaging and motivating therapy programmes that are meaningful to the child and family, supporting the development of functional skills, independence and participation in play, education and community life.

In addition to her broad paediatric experience, Katie is one of a small number of Occupational Therapists trained in Dynamic Movement Therapy, a specialist approach that uses structured movement, postural support and sensory-motor activities to support the development of core stability, coordination, motor control and functional ability in children with neurological or developmental difficulties.

Katie is known for her warm, approachable and professional manner and her ability to build strong therapeutic relationships with children, young people and their families. She is a dedicated, reliable and highly motivated practitioner with excellent analytical, clinical reasoning and problem-solving skills, and is committed to delivering high-quality, evidence-based, person-centred care.

Professional Work Summary:

- Current- Associate Occupational Therapist at Positive OT and Case Management
- Aug 2017 – Jan 2021, Senior Lead Occupational Therapist, Leeds City Council, Recovery Service
- Feb - Aug 2017, Case Manager/ Occupational Therapist, Enable Therapy Services
- Mar 2016 - Feb 2017, Senior Occupational Therapist, St James' Hospital

- Sep 2015 - Feb 2017, Locum Occupational Therapist, Emergency Dept, John Radcliffe Hospital
- Jun 2015 - Sep 2015, Locum Occupational Therapist, Tameside General Hospital
- Apr 2015 - Jun 2015, Locum Occupational Therapist, Southport District General Hospital
- Jun 2014 - Apr 2015, Specialist Occupational Therapist, Burns and Plastics, University Hospital of South Manchester
- Apr 2013 - Feb 2014, Specialist Occupational Therapist, Adults and Children, Burns and Plastics. Chelsea and Westminster Hospital
- Jul 2012 - Apr 2013, Specialist Occupational Therapist, Adults and Children, Burns and Plastics, Burns Centre, Queen Victoria Hospital
- Jun 2011 - Jul 2012, Occupational Therapist, Luton and Dunstable Hospital

Continued Professional Development including but not limited to:

- Volunteer for 'Summer School' at a school for children with moderate to profound learning disabilities- Brookfields School, Reading.
- Paediatric Therapeutic Moving and Handling with Penny Townsend
- Dynamic Movement Intervention, Level A, B and C

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