

CURRICULUM VITAE for Dan Sheptooha

BBehSc, GDPsych, PGDip Psych, LLB (Hons), GDLP, FDRP
Registered Psychologist | PSY0002429402

OVERVIEW

I am a registered psychologist, nationally accredited mediator, and family dispute resolution practitioner with special interest in working with children and high conflict families experiencing family breakdown and separation. Across various roles in both private practice and non-government organisations, my focus has been on mitigating distress on individuals and children by way of therapeutic intervention and assessment, and child and person centered alternative dispute resolution. My experience includes offering post separation services in family relationship centres, facilitating court ordered parenting courses, and providing psychological therapy to children, adolescents, and individuals with complex mental health presentations. I conduct assessments in the role of expert witness in both the Children's Court and Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia.

EXPERIENCE

Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner 2014 – 2018, 2019
Centacare – Chermside Family Relationship Centre

- Supporting families with complex needs in crisis, coordinating with child protection, family violence and early intervention services
- Clinical assessment and risk screening of suitability for family mediation pursuant to the *Family Law Regulations*
- Conducting three-to-four-hour mediations using various dispute resolution modalities, including child inclusive mediation
- Facilitating the Keeping Kids in Mind post separation program to both Court ordered, and non-Court ordered participants

Paralegal/Family Lawyer 2018 – 2019
MBA Lawyers

- Providing clerical, administrative, and legal support to senior solicitors
- Providing legal advice to clients pertaining to parenting matters, divorce applications, binding financial agreements, spousal maintenance, and property settlements
- Drafting legal documents and correspondence
- Attending mediations, directions hearings and trials for the purposes of advocacy

Lawyer 2019 – 2020
Brisbane Elder Law

- Providing legal advice to clients pertaining to all areas of succession and elder law
- Drafting legal documents and correspondence
- Attending dispute resolution conferences

Sessional Academic – Dispute Resolution 2020
Queensland University of Technology (Faculty of Law)

- Facilitating student learning objectives pertaining to theoretical dispute resolution processes, both legal and non-legal

- Conducting weekly in person and online tutorials and mock dispute resolution scenarios
- Undertaking assessment tasks (including marking and feedback)

Conciliator (contract)

2020

Queensland Human Rights Commission

- Supporting the Commission's intake team to answer enquiries from the public and provide appropriate information or referrals
- Analysing complaints and related information received by the Queensland Human Rights Commission in accordance with the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1991* (Qld) the *Human Rights Act 2019* (Qld), and other relevant legislation, policies, and procedures
- Writing decision letters in response to complaints pursuant to legal precedents and legislation
- Facilitating equitable conciliation processes including preparing parties for conciliation, conducting four hour legally assisted conciliation conferences, and assisting in post-conference negotiations to resolve disputes

Provisional Psychologist/Psychologist

2020 – 2023

Outlook Ecotherapy

- Providing psychometric assessment and psychological therapy to clients, predominantly children and adolescents using a range of treatment modalities in indoor and outdoor settings
- Providing parent training by way of Parent Management Training and Emotion Coaching
- Report writing for clients in receipt of the National Disability Insurance Scheme

Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner

2021– 2023

Interrelate – Gosford Family Relationship Centre

- Assisting families in crisis, coordinating with child protection, family violence and early intervention services
- Clinical assessment and risk screening of suitability pursuant to legislation
- Conducting three-to-four-hour family dispute resolutions conferences

Chairperson and Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner

2021 – current

Legal Aid NSW (FDR Panel)

- Consultant mediator conducting child focused, legally assisted family dispute resolution with high conflict families presenting with allegations of family violence, adverse mental health, child abuse and addiction issues
- Providing recommendation for grants of future funding

Regulation 7 Family Consultant

2023 – current

Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia

- Appointed under regulation 7 of the *Family Law Regulations 1984* (Cth) to undertake comprehensive family assessments
- Conducting clinical and forensic assessments of families where parental capacity is disputed, including allegations of family violence, child abuse, substance misuse and psychological ill-health
- Providing evidence under cross examination in trial proceedings

Psychologist

2023 – current

Like Minds Psychological Services

- Undertaking clinical and forensic assessments in the Federal Circuit and Family Court and the Children's Courts
- Contracting to a private psychological service specialising in single expert reports in family law
- Contracting to Child and Youth Protection Services (Canberra) conducting comprehensive family law assessments in the role of single expert witness

FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor of Behavioural Science – *University of Queensland, 2009*
- Graduate Diploma of Psychology – *Bond University, 2011*
- Post Graduate Diploma of Psychology – *Bond University, 2012*
- Basic Mediation Accreditation Course – *Bond University, 2014*
- Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner Accreditation Course – *Bond University, 2014*
- Bachelor of Laws (Second Class Honours-Division A) – *Queensland University of Technology, 2018*
- Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice – *College of Law, 2019*

ACCREDITATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Psychologist (General Registration) with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
- Nationally Accredited Mediator with the Australia Mediation Association
- Accredited Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner with the Attorney General's Department
- Regulation 7 Family Consultant with the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia
- Member of Australian Psychological Society
- Member of Australian Mediation Association
- Member of Pacifica Congress Australasia
- Member of Association of Family and Conciliation Courts

PRESENTATIONS

- Panel Speaker –The Family Law Pathways Network Annual Dinner (Central Coast) on *The Future of Child and Family Law Practice* – 21 March 2024