

# Fitness to Interview in Children and Young People – Monday 23 October 2023

## Dr Heidi Hales, Consultant Psychiatrist in CAMHS and Forensic Psychiatry Honorary Senior Lecturer, Cardiff University

Heidi Hales has dual training in child and adolescent psychiatry and forensic psychiatry. Much of her work has focused on adolescent forensic mental health but she has also worked in adult forensic psychiatry services and Child and Adolescent mental health services.

Having worked as a Consultant Psychiatrist in HMYOI Feltham and HMYOI Cookham Wood, secure wards for adolescents at St Andrews Healthcare and West London NHS Trust, the West London Community Forensic CAMHS team, HMP Holloway and West London adult community forensic service, she is now more CAMHS and research focused in North Wales.

She has completed a PhD investigating the effects of contact with suicide-related behaviour on young people in YOIs and in 2016 she was part of a team funded by NHSE to complete a service evaluation and census of all young people from England in secure care.

Her main research interest is how to evaluate and improve treatment and care for young people who are in contact with the youth justice services due to emotional, mental health or neurodevelopmental needs and how we can learn from care systems in different jurisdictions through an international research collaboration.

