

# CURRICULUM VITAE



## Ruth Marchant

### Developmental Psychologist and Registered Intermediary

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Ruth has a background in direct work with children. Since 1985 she has specialised in work with very young children and children with complex communication needs. Ruth has consulted with children on a wide range of issues and developed particular knowledge and expertise in evidentially careful communication. She has been directly involved in more than 500 forensic interviews or trials with children aged under six; children with communication impairments or children who are severely traumatised.

Ruth has taught and published widely on these issues, including contributing the guidance on interviewing very young children, psychologically disturbed children and disabled children within Achieving Best Evidence (CJS 2003, 2007, 2011), and the Practice Guidance on Assessing Disabled Children within the Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need (Department of Health 2000). She has a first degree in developmental psychology and have since undertaken training in a range of assessment, interviewing and communication methods.

Ruth is a founding director of Triangle. Triangle works to enable the best evidence of children across the UK, and also teach, publish and consult on these issues. Ruth undertakes forensic interviews with children instructed by the police, local authorities or the family courts. She is also a Registered Witness Intermediary with the Ministry of Justice, providing communication support to very young children and disabled children in their involvement with the police and the courts. Ruth leads multidisciplinary teams providing expert opinion to the family courts for Triangle.

### Qualifications/Training

- 1982 BA Honours Developmental Psychology
- 1984 – 2014 Advanced Certificate in Forensic Interviewing of Children
  - British Sign Language level 1
  - Counselling Skills in Paediatric Oncology
  - Derbyshire Language Scheme Assessors Course
  - Hospital Play Techniques
  - Interviewing within Achieving Best Evidence Guidance
  - Interviewing within Memorandum of Good Practice Guidance
  - Makaton sign language stages 1-9
  - Masterclass in Investigative Interviewing of Young Children
  - Non-directive Play
  - Witness Intermediary Training



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**Directors**  
Ruth Marchant  
Laura Jones  
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Company No. 3539167

## Employment

1997 – current	Co-Director, Triangle, Brighton
1995 – 2009	Specialist Adviser Child Protection, Chailey Clinical Services (NHS)
1989 – 1995	Child Care Manager, Chailey Heritage Clinical Services (NHS)
1988 – 1989	Residential Care Manager, Foremost Programme (NHS)
1985 – 1988	Team Leader, Foremost Programme (NHS)
1984 – 1985	Residential Care Worker (Lansdowne Children's Centre, East Sussex)
1982 – 1984	Hospital Play Specialist, the Royal London Hospital, Mile End (NHS)
1976 – 1982	Various temporary and part-time childcare and residential childcare positions while in full time education

## Advisory Roles

2014 – current	Child sexual abuse advisory group (Office of the Children's Commissioner)
2013 – current	Section 28 advisory group/ pre-recorded cross examination (Ministry of Justice)
2014 – current	Toolkit development for Advocates' Gateway: communication aids
2004 – current	National working group on safeguarding disabled children
2013	Toolkit development for Advocates' Gateway:
2013	Children under seven/ vulnerable witnesses/remote livelink
2013	Child sexual exploitation advisory group (Office of the Children's Commissioner)
2013	Input to review of child witnesses
2013	Input to victims' code focussing on child witnesses
2011	Input to Munro review of child protection
2009	Input to safeguarding disabled children practice guidance (Department of Health)

## Publications

Marchant, R. & Wurtzel, D. (forthcoming). Intermediaries. Vulnerable Defendants and Witnesses in the Criminal Justice System. eds Cooper, P. & Norton, H. Oxford University Press.

Marchant, R. (forthcoming). Special Measures. Vulnerable Defendants and Witnesses in the Criminal Justice System. eds Cooper, P. & Norton, H. Oxford University Press.

Marchant, R. (forthcoming). Making Assessment Work for Children with Complex Needs. In J. Horwath (Ed.), The Child's World: The Comprehensive Guide to Assessing Children in Need, 3rd ed. London: Jessica Kingsley.



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Cooper, P. and Marchant, R. (forthcoming) 'Did you not say no? Is cross-examination about the truth?'

Marchant, R. & Cooper, P. (2016). ABE interviews: the importance of recording what happens off camera. Family Law. 46. 971-975.

[Marchant, R. \(2016a\)](#). Age is not determinative: The Evidence of Very Young Children in the English Justice System. Criminal Law and Justice Weekly. 180. 12-13. 223-230.

Marchant, R., Collins, K. & Nicholls, S (forthcoming) 'On truth, lies and muddles: helping children explain the difference between truth and lies'

Marchant, R. (2016c) General Guidelines on Using Drawings, Pictures, Photographs, Symbols, Dolls, Figures and Props with Children in Achieving Best Evidence in Criminal Proceedings: Guidance on interviewing victims and witnesses, and guidance on using special measures London: Ministry of Justice paras 3.102-3.149

Collins, K. & Marchant, R. (2015). 'Planning to Question a Child or Young Person - Toolkit 6'. Available at <http://www.theadvocatesgateway.org/toolkits>

Marchant, R. & Jones, L. (2015a). Intermediaries: who are they?. The Magistrate. February/March 2015 edition. 2-3.

Marchant, R. & Jones, L. (2015b). Showing and Telling: The evidence of very young children. The Magistrate. April/May edition. 29.

O'Mahoney, B. Marchant, R., Snook, B. and Faddon, L. (2015) Vulnerable groups and the use of intermediaries in Communication in Forensic Contexts: Integrated Approaches from Psychology, Linguistics and Law Enforcement. (eds) Gavin Oxburgh, Trond Myklebust, Tim Grant and Becky Milne

Cooper, P. Backen, P. and Marchant, R. (2015). Getting to Grips with Ground Rules Hearings: A checklist for judges, advocates and intermediaries to promote the fair treatment of vulnerable people in court. Criminal Law Review. 6. 420-435.

Marchant, R. (2015a). Additional Factors Concerning Children Under 7 (Or Functioning at a very young age) - Toolkit 7. The Advocates Gateway. Available at <http://www.theadvocatesgateway.org/toolkits>

Marchant, R. (May 2015b). Small Voices Big Justice: The evidence of under fives in the justice system. Presentation at the President's Conference, Family Law Division, Northampton, 11/05/15.



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Marchant, R. (April 2015c) Small Voices Big Justice: The evidence of under fives in the justice system. Presentation at the Royal College of Paediatrics & Child Health Conference, Birmingham. 27/04/15.

Marchant, R. (2013) 'On truth, lies and muddles: New ways to explore understanding of truth and lies with very young children and children with communication impairments' presented at the International Investigative Interviewing Research Group 2013 Conference, Maastricht.

Marchant, R. (2013) 'How Young is too Young: The evidence of children under five in the English Criminal Justice System' Child Abuse Review DOI: 10.1002/car.2273

Marchant, R. (2012) 'Interviewing very young children' paper presented at Special Measures Training and Development Seminar, Serious & Organised Crime Agency

Marchant, R. (2012) 'Child witnesses with autism' paper presented at Autism and the Criminal Justice System: From eyewitness testimony, victimisation to offending City Law School

Marchant, R. (2012) 'Extra special measures' in The Intermediary Serious & Organised Crime Agency, Ryton

Marchant, R. (2011) 'How Young is too Young? Investigative interviews with children aged two to six' paper presented at the International Investigative Interviewing Research Group 2011 Conference, Dundee, Scotland

Marchant, R. (2011) 'Investigation of concerns about disabled children's safety or welfare' in Safeguarding Deaf and Disabled Children NSPCC/Triangle

Marchant, R. (2011) 'Preventing the abuse of disabled children' in Safeguarding Deaf and Disabled Children NSPCC/Triangle

Marchant, R. (2011) 'What is disability?' in Safeguarding Deaf and Disabled Children NSPCC/Triangle

Marchant, R. & Irvin, P. (2011) 'Survival' in Safeguarding Deaf and Disabled Children NSPCC/Triangle



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Marchant, R. (2010) 'Meeting the needs of disabled children who have been abused' in Sexual and domestic violence and abuse: Tackling the health and mental health effects eds A. Taket and K. Itzin Routledge, London

Marchant, R. (2010) 'Show me what happened: Working with children's unspoken communication' paper presented at International Investigative Interviewing Research Group 2010 Conference Stavern, Norway

Marchant, R. (2010) 'Show me what happened: Children's unspoken communication in investigative interviews' paper presented at The Investigator Conference: Interviewing Child Suspects and Witnesses Leicester

Marchant, R. (2010) 'Not exactly according to plan: End to end case study of a witness aged 3 at interview, 4 at trial' paper presented at the Intermediaries Annual Conference 2010 NPIA, Ryton

Marchant, R. (2010; 2003) 'Assessing children with complex needs' in The Child's World: Assessing Children in Need ed J. Horwarth, Jessica Kingsley, London

Marchant, R. (2009) 'Show me what happened: Draft checklist for working with children's unspoken communication' paper presented at the Intermediaries Annual Conference 2009 NPIA, Ryton

Marchant, R; Jones, M; Julyan, A. (2009) Three Way Street: Putting Children at the Centre of Communication Handbook and DVD Triangle, Brighton

Marchant, R. (2008) 'Working with disabled children who live away from home' in Direct Work: Social work with children and young people in care Lefevre, M. & Luckock, B. BAAF, London

Marchant, R., Lefevre, M., Jones, M. & Luckock, B. (2008) Necessary Stuff: The Social Care Needs of children with complex health care needs Social Care Institute of Excellence, London

Luckock, B., Lefevre, M., Orr, D., Marchant, R. Tanner, K. (2007) Knowledge review on teaching, learning and assessing communication skills with children and young people in social work education Social Care Institute of Excellence, London

Marchant, R. (2004) 'Adopting a more inclusive approach to listening' Early Years Education V6 No3 July 2004 pp 54-56



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Marchant, R. & Kirby, P. (2004) 'The Participation of Young Children: Communication, Consultation and Involvement' in Young Children's Citizenship ed B. Neale JRF, York

Marchant, R. & Cole, M. (2004) 'Through children's eyes' Nursery World Sep 2004

Marchant, R. (2004) Using Assessments Positively with Disabled Children in the Handsel Trust Newsletter

Marchant, R. & Jones, M. (2003) Getting it Right: Involving disabled children in assessment, planning and review processes Triangle, Brighton

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Marchant, R. (2001) 'Working with disabled children' in Children in Society: Contemporary Theory, Policy and Practice eds Foley, P., Roche, J. & Tucker, S.

Marchant, R. & Gordon, R. (2001) Two Way Street: Communicating with Disabled Children and Young People Handbook accompanying video Triangle/NSPCC, London

Marchant, R. & Jones, M. (2000) 'Assessing Need for disabled children and their families' in The Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families Department of Health, London

Marchant, R. (1999) 'Talkback: Listening to Children' in Quality Protects: Transforming Children's Services

Issue 3 no 99 pp22-23 Dept of Health, London

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Marchant, R. 1997 'Children's experiences of the medical world' in Turning Points: A Resource Pack for Communicating with Children NSPCC, Leicester

Marchant, R. 1997 'Challenging behaviour in children' in Turning Points: A Resource Pack for Communicating with Children NSPCC, Leicester

Marchant, R. 1997 'Children and advocacy' in Turning Points: A Resource Pack for Communicating with Children NSPCC, Leicester

Marchant, R. & Thompson, F. 1997 'Children with life threatening conditions' in Turning Points: A Resource Pack for Communicating with Children NSPCC, Leicester

Marchant, R. 1993 'Child protection and children with disabilities: a summary of work developed at Chailey Heritage' NAPSAC Journal no4

Marchant, R. & Cross, M. 1993 'Places of Safety? Institutions, disabled children and abuse' in ABCD, below

Marchant, R. 1993 'Good practice in intimate care' in ABCD, Abuse and Children who are Disabled Resource Pack; Trainer and Reader (Cross, Gordon, Kennedy & Marchant)

Marchant, R. 1993 'Safety programmes and disabled children' in ABCD, Abuse and Children who are Disabled Resource Pack; Trainer and Reader (Cross, Gordon, Kennedy & Marchant)



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Marchant, R. & Jones, M. 1993 'A Charter for Children's Rights' in Educational and Child Psychology (special issue: Vulnerable Children) v10: no3 pp60-63

Marchant, R & Page, M. 1993 Bridging The Gap: Child protection work with children with multiple disabilities NSPCC, London

Marchant, R. et al 1992 'Good practice in intimate care' Child Abuse Review v1: no 3 pp198-200

Marchant, R & Page, M. 1992 'Bridging the gap: Investigating the abuse of children with multiple disabilities' Child Abuse Review v1:no 3: pp179-183

Marchant, R. 1991 'Myths and facts about sexual abuse and children with disabilities' Child Abuse Review v 5: no2: 22-24



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