

# Surgery style Q&A Support for Children and Families Support Workers

Michelle Moore, Birmingham, Sandwell and Solihull CCG Mental Capacity Act Project Team

[michelle.moore15@nhs.net](mailto:michelle.moore15@nhs.net)

## Project method

The Project Team worked with some support workers from a Children and Families Team to introduce the MCA and to offer some surgery style Q&A support. For most who attended the presentation, this was their first introduction to MCA. We learned of countless situations that staff may find themselves in, particularly for example where parents are unaware of the act and seek to make decisions on behalf of those children over the age of 16, who may be able to make their own decisions with support. The team often face difficult and complex situations where MCA is key to determining next steps alongside other pieces of legislation. Other common themes for the team were based upon the mental capacity of parents and the need to demonstrate compliance with MCA in the context of decisions being made about their children.

## Project results/evaluation

This taster session resulted in many workers seeking to ask for further training in the area from their own organisations particularly in light of case law around deprivations of liberty. There was a very high level of engagement from the staff that attended and a good quality of discussion within the groups, staff asked relevant and important questions. We devised a fact sheet for those working with children and young people and signposted to relevant case law.

A Local Authority v D and Others ( 2015) EWHC 3125 (FAM)

[Birmingham City Council v D \(2016\) EWCOP 8, \(2016\) MHLO 5](#)

## Project area classification

Hospital care		Dementia	
GP care		Learning disability	
Social care		Other mental health	
Voluntary sector		Palliative care	
Financial services		Advance planning, LPAs	
Police		Commissioning	
Legal		Training	X
Community health care		For professionals?	X
Nursing and care home		For public and service users?	
Acute care			