



Kate Bleasby

Nurse Case Manager

Based in: Darlington

Areas of expertise

Adults & children
Acquired brain injury
Cerebral palsy
Mental health conditions
Prolonged disorders of consciousness
Epilepsy
Sensory impairment
Learning disability
Behaviour management
SEN & EHCP
Vocational rehabilitation
Benefits and appeals
Securing statutory funding
Complex nursing equipment and care

Qualifications

Advanced Diploma in Nursing - Child branch, 2002
BSc in Integrated Care, 2017

Memberships & registrations

British Association of Brain Injury and Complex Case Management (BABICM)
Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)
Northern Acquired Brain Injury Forum (NABIF)
Unison

Profile

Kate joined A Chance for Life Ltd in 2020, bringing valuable experience from her paediatric nursing background into her case management role. She manages a caseload of clients with a range of neurological conditions and complex needs, pre and post settlement, ranging in age from 14 years to 40+. She works closely with clients and families to assess, plan, implement and evaluate rehabilitation programs, helping them to reach their rehabilitation potential.

Kate has worked with clients and families to secure the best neuro-rehabilitation in some of the best centres in the North for acute rehabilitation, co-ordinating transfers and communicating between centres. She is adept at gathering sound rationale and costs for specialist treatment, to help secure funding.

Kate has supported clients and their families to move to new accommodation, suitably adapted for their needs and to accommodate their support team alongside the family. She leads and coordinates large MDTs so that the client is able to receiving a combined and holistic approach to their rehabilitation.

Kate has experience of working with clients in PDOC, gaining a good working understanding of the condition and the pathways available.

She has a sensitive approach to the difficult discussions, managing realistic expectations of the family and participating effectively in best interest meetings.

Kate works closely with the family to understand what her client in PDOC would have wanted if they were able to voice their thoughts, getting to know her client as they were pre-accident and ensuring she can be an advocate for the client and their family.

Professional Experience

Current Role

- Carry out assessments, prepare Case Management reports and costs.
- Source therapists, and coordinate multi-disciplinary teams and rehabilitation programmes.
- Work alongside education teams and statutory services.
- Work alongside litigation solicitors and financial deputies within the medico-legal field.
- Work with Clients who are both pre- and post- litigation.
- Work collaboratively with Clients and their families to tailor support and rehabilitation programmes to meet individual complex needs
- Support clients and families to move in to more suitable accommodation.

Professional Pathway

2016-2020	Clinical Nurse Advisor and Trainer for pressure area care equipment and other medical devices.
2016-2016	Paediatric Specialist Nurse for Thornbury Community Nursing Services (ad-hoc shifts)
2008-2016	Staff Nurse, Paediatric Intensive Care, James Cook University Hospital
2002-2008	Staff Nurse, Children's Ward, James Cook University Hospital

Kate qualified in 2002 as a Paediatric Nurse working on a busy paediatric medical ward in the North East. This role involved caring for a wide range of paediatric medical conditions including children with neurological impairment, spinal injuries, tracheostomies, cerebral palsy, seizures and other life limiting conditions. Kate worked closely with the patients and their families to plan care and plan for their future discharge ensuring a holistic approach was catered for.

In 2008, Kate developed and progressed to Paediatric Intensive Care where she worked for 8 years as a Staff Nurse and Acting Sister. During this time, Kate cared for children that required both high dependency nursing and intensive care for medical, surgical, neurological, spinal, traumatic, orthopaedic conditions. The various client conditions included a mixture of new acquired injuries and long-standing life changing injuries.

With an empathetic approach to quality patient care and healthcare, it was paramount for Kate to encourage the participation of both patients and their families in developing care plans which would provide the best patient outcomes and quality of life. Her role heavily involved liaising with a wide range of health care professionals such as physiotherapists, dieticians, community nurses, OT's, educational leads, play therapists, social services to provide bespoke and comprehensive care packages for her clients.

Kate's past roles involved –

- Paediatric nursing of general medical, high dependency and intensive care conditions.
- Tracheostomies, gastrostomies, catheters, central lines,
- Invasive and non-invasive ventilation/ life support
- Manual handling, pressure area care, infection control, safeguarding awareness
- Various medical equipment experience
- Multidisciplinary team meetings and discharge planning meetings
- Named nurse for long term patients, co-ordinating care alongside medical team.
- Community care work
- Complex medication calculation/ administration
- High standards of hands-on clinical care with compassion and empathy to patient and family.
- End of life/ Palliative Care Support
- Experience of setting up, training and support community care packages from the hospital setting.

Kate's recent training record is available on request.