

Melanie Waddy Adoption Support Agency Statement of Purpose

1. Position Statement

1.1 Melanie Waddy aims to provide counselling support to adults affected in any way by adoption: prospective adoptive parents, adoptive parents, birth parents and adopted persons. This service is offered in collaboration with other relevant agencies and service user organisations.

1.2 Melanie Waddy understands that the reasons for not having birth children are wide ranging, and exploring these may be part of the counselling process when counselling adults who are seeking to adopt, or have adopted.

1.3 Melanie Waddy acknowledges that not everyone is able, or has been permitted, to look after their children, and offers a forum to explore the feelings engendered by the separation from a child or children, either recently or in the past.

1.4 Melanie Waddy acknowledges that her consulting room does not provide access to people with certain disabilities, and undertakes to seek premises that are suitable in these circumstances if required.

1.5 Melanie Waddy acknowledges the difficulty that some clients may have in travelling to her consulting room, and undertakes to travel to a location more convenient for a client should that be necessary.

1.6 Melanie Waddy acknowledges the potential for risk to herself in her position as sole practitioner, and undertakes a risk assessment when deciding whether she is in a suitable position to see clients in her private practice. On occasions, she prefers to see clients within an organisation.

1.7 The Statement of Purpose is provided upon request to any client accessing the service, and to any professional or organisation referring clients to the service.

1.8 The Statement of Purpose is subject to formal approval, and is reviewed regularly.

1.9 Legislative Framework

The Adoption Support Agency complies with all relevant legislation:

- The Children Act 1989
- The Adoption and Children Act 2002
- The Adoption Agencies Regulations 2005
- The Adoption and Children (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2005 National Minimum Standards (Adoption Services)
- The Inter-Country Adoption (Hague Convention) Regulations 2003
- The Adoption Support Services Regulations 2005

- The Statutory Adoption Guidance amended 2011, 2013 and 2014
- The Mental Capacity Act 2005
- The Mental Health Act 2007
- The Care Act 2014
- The Social Services Wellbeing Act 2014
- The Sexual Offences Act 2003
- The Equality Act 2010

The framework is designed to ensure that the agency is accountable. It defines practice and actions within the service.

1.9 Melanie Waddy has current Public Liability Insurance for her consulting rooms.

1.10 Melanie Waddy has Professional Indemnity Insurance for her psychotherapy practice.

2. Aims

2.1 To provide counselling support and thus improve the mental wellbeing of adults affected in any way by adoption.

2.2 To ensure that during the counselling sessions that all parties keep in mind that the welfare of children is paramount.

2.3 To ensure that prospective adopters who are referred for, or seek counselling are treated with respect and without prejudice.

2.4 To ensure that members of birth families who are referred for, or seek counselling, are treated with respect and without prejudice.

2.5 To ensure that adopted people who are referred for, or seek counselling, are treated with understanding.

2.6 To ensure that any client who is seeking advice that I am unqualified or not in a position to offer will be helped to find appropriate professional support if possible.

3.Objectives

3.1 To provide counselling and support to adopted adults that recognises the lifelong impact of adoption.

3.2 To provide counselling and support to prospective adopters who may wish to explore previously unidentified or ambivalent feelings that have been uncovered during the assessment process.

3.3 To provide counseling and support to adults who have been turned down by an agency as prospective adopters.

3.4 To provide counselling and support to adopters who have ambivalent feelings about a current adoptive placement.

3.5 To provide counselling and support to adults who have experienced a disrupted adoptive placement.

3.6 To provide counselling and support to mothers and fathers who have relinquished their children, recently, or in the past.

3.7 To provide counselling and support to mothers and fathers who have had their children removed from their care recently, or in the past.

3.8 To provide counselling and support to individuals and couples experiencing problems with fertility.

3.8 To facilitate referral to an appropriate agency to work on issues that are beyond my remit, e.g. birth relative tracing.

3.9 To develop and maintain my skills, knowledge and experience in order to deliver adoption support professionally and appropriately.

4. Principles of the Adoptions Support Agency

4.1 Melanie Waddy, sole practitioner within the agency is a member of United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy (UKCP), and adheres to their Code of Ethics.

4.2 Counselling support is offered maintaining the principle that the child's welfare is paramount in all adoption support work, and this principle supersedes any duty of confidentiality to a client.

4.3 All clients should have access to the UKCP Complaints Procedure (complaints@ukcp.org.uk 020 7014 9955)

5 Systems for Evaluating and Monitoring the Service

5.1 Clients are offered CORE-IMS assessment forms at the beginning and end of therapy, where appropriate, in order to assess their mental wellbeing, and any changes effected by the therapy.

5.2 Melanie Waddy has regular supervision of one hour per week of her therapeutic work. Her current supervisor is a psychoanalyst, Fellow of the Institute of Psychoanalysis.

5.3 As an independent member of Hertfordshire Adoption Panel, Melanie Waddy is subject to annual appraisal from the Panel Adviser and the Panel Chair.

6. Registration Authorities

6.1 OFSTED is responsible for monitoring, regulating and inspecting adoption services under the provisions of the Care Standards Act 2000.

Melanie Waddy's Adoption Support Agency is regulated and inspected by:

OFSTED
Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester M1 2WD

Telephone: 0300 123 1231

Email: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk Web: www.ofsted.gov.uk

6.2 The United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy (UKCP) is responsible for regulating psychotherapy practice. Melanie Waddy is a member of the Council for Psychoanalysis and Jungian Analysis (CPJA) College within the UKCP, and is subject to annual re-registration, and periodic scrutiny of her compliance with the requirement for Continuous Professional Development.

United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy
2nd Floor, Edward House
2 Wakley Street
London EC1V 7LT

020 7014 9955

Email: info@ukcp.org.uk Web: www.ukcp.org.uk

6.3 Melanie Waddy retains her registration as a Registered General Nurse (RGN). She is registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC). Her practice is governed by the code: Standards of Conduct, Performance and Ethics for Nurses and Midwives. She is subject to annual re-registration, and to a revalidation process. She is subject to periodic scrutiny of her compliance with the requirement for Continuous Professional Development.

Nursing and Midwifery Council
23 Portland Place
London W1B 1PZ

Tel: 020 7637 7181

Email: UKenquiries@nmc-uk.org Web: www.nmc.org.uk

Complaints Procedure

Where clients express dissatisfaction with the service, Melanie Waddy will first try and discuss the reasons for the client's dissatisfaction within the therapeutic milieu.

If the client feels that the issues that provoked dissatisfaction have not been satisfactorily dealt with, they can make a complaint to the UKCP, following their Central Complaints Procedure:

Email: complaints@ukcp.org.uk Tel: 020 7014 9955