

Acronyms:



Professional child care, like most other professions, is rife with acronyms.

For those less familiar with them, here's a little glossary to help you decipher it all! The list is alphabetical:

- **ASD - Autistic Spectrum Disorder** - an umbrella term used to describe a number of symptoms and behaviours which affect the way people understand and react to the world around them. Includes Asperger's Syndrome, Autism and pervasive developmental disorders. For more info click [here](#).
- **CAFCASS - Child And Family Court Advisory & Support Service** - a non-department public body set up to promote the welfare of children and families. They write independent reports to help the court with decisions (among other things)
- **CAMHS - Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service** - the department of each local health board that deals with children's mental health
- **CCE - Child Criminal Exploitation** - Is a form of child abuse which involves criminal exploitation. Children are involved in criminal activities including the movement of drugs or money which results in personal gain for an individual, group or organised criminal gang. Read more [here](#).
- **CSE - Child Sexual Exploitation** - a form of sexual abuse that involves an element of exchange. The exchange can include the giving or withdrawal of something; such as the withdrawal of violence or threats to abuse another person. There may be a facilitator who receives something in addition to or instead of the child who is exploited. Children may not recognise the exploitative nature of the relationship or exchange. Children may feel that they have given consent. Read more [here](#).
- **CPR**
 - **Child Protection Register** - a list of children held by each local authority. The children listed are deemed to be at risk of significant harm following formal investigations and a multi-agency child protection conference under the relevant Child Protection Procedures.
 - **Consistency, Predictability & Reliability** - part of the TRM Practitioner training; a summary of how we need to 'be' in order to help those at level 1 of the TRM (see 'TRM' below). For a summary, click [here](#).
- **ECM - Enhanced Case Management** - a way of working with complex offending young people using the Trauma Recovery Model (see below)

- **FACTS - Forensic Adolescent Consultation & Treatment Service** - the Wales-wide tier 4 CAMHS (see above!) service which deals with young people where there is high risk to the self or the public (or both) and there is offending and mental health or mental illness. In England, the equivalent services are regional and referred to as F-CAMHS (i.e. forensic CAMHS).
- **HSB (or SHB) - Harmful Sexual Behaviour** - sexual behaviours expressed by children and young people under the age of 18 years that are developmentally inappropriate, may be harmful towards themselves or others, or be abusive towards another child, young person or adult. This definition of HSB includes both contact and non-contact behaviours (grooming, exhibitionism, voyeurism and sexting or recording images of sexual acts via smart phones or social media applications). Read more [here](#).
- **LAC - Looked After Child** - now sometimes called CLA (pronounced 'clar') which means Children Looked After. Both refer to children being looked after by the local authority (i.e. they are in foster care or living in a children's home), voluntarily because parents have consented.
- **NMT - Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics** - Dr Bruce Perry's developmentally-informed, biologically-respectful approach to working with at-risk children. The Neurosequential Model is not a specific therapeutic technique or intervention; it is a way to organise a child's history and current functioning. Learn more - [here](#).
- **PACE -**
 - **Playfulness Acceptance Curiosity & Empathy** - Dan Hughes' way of summarising how we need to approach building attunement with troubled children. See the chapter on PACE in Hughes' book - [here](#).
 - **Police & Criminal Evidence Act** (1984, etc.) The principal legislation governing the conduct of Police activity in relation to stop and search, arrest, detention, questioning and more. The PACE codes of practice define specific procedures for processing children. (See the Act [here](#))
- **PCC - Police & Crime Commissioner** - the elected political head of each Police force area
- **PTSD - Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder** - a mental disorder that can develop after a person is exposed to a traumatic event, either experienced directly or witnessed. Symptoms can include thought intrusions (typically called 'flashbacks'), increased startle response ('fight or flight'), avoidance and/or numbing when reminded of the trauma. See a brief summary - [here](#).
- **SCH - Secure Children's Home** - a secure environment for children aged 12-17 who have offended but who are deemed too vulnerable for an STC or a YOI. Also for children who need secure care for welfare reasons. Children can be detained in an SCH from the age of 10 with special permission from the Home Secretary.
- **SHB - Sexually Harmful Behaviour** - see HSB above

- **STC - Secure Training Centre** - a secure setting for children aged 12-17, a bit like a YOI, though more child friendly, with better staff ratios, etc. For children on remand awaiting a court appearance for trial or sentencing, or to serve a sentence handed down by the court.
- **SONAR - Summary Of Needs And Responses** - Jonny's method of summarising needs so that professionals can be proactive in their care, thus minimising risks that might emerge otherwise through unmet need.
- **TRM - Trauma Recovery Model** - a model written by Jonny & Dr Tricia Skuse for understanding how people get 'stuck' when their development is impaired through abuse, neglect or other traumatic experiences. It also helps with assessment and planning interventions to help people recover.
 - Get more info on the TRMAcademy website - [here](#)
 - For a quick model summary, click [here](#)
 - Join the TRM Academy mailing list - [here](#)
- **YJB - Youth Justice Board** - The YJB's primary function is to monitor the operation of the youth justice system and the provision of youth justice services. Within England and Wales it is responsible for: using information and evidence to form an expert view of how to get the best outcomes for children who offend and for victims of crime. Learn more - [here](#)
- **YOI - Young Offenders Institution** - a prison for children aged 15-20, though different ones cater for slightly different ages. Children can be sent to a YOI on remand to await a court appearance for trial or sentencing, or to serve a sentence handed down by the court.
- **YOT - Youth Offending Team** - every local authority has one. this is the multi-agency team charged with looking after children trouble with the law.

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For more go to www.TRMAcademy.com/stuff & www.JonnyMatthew.com/toolkit