

**Dr Dawn Adams** BSc (Hons), Ph.D., D.Clin.Psychol., CPsychol., CSci.

NIHR Post-doctoral Research Fellow and Research Clinical Psychologist

**[School of Psychology \(/schools/psychology/index.aspx\)](/schools/psychology/index.aspx)**

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## About

I work in the School of Psychology part-time (.6 FTE) on a five-year NIHR Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship for research into the early signs of challenging behaviour in individuals with intellectual disabilities and genetic syndromes. Outside of this, I continue to work clinically with children and adolescents with mental health problems, learning disabilities and challenging behaviour.

## Qualifications

- BSc. (Hons) Psychology, 2003, University of Birmingham
- Ph.D., Psychology, 2006, University of Birmingham
- Doctorate in Clinical Psychology (D.Clin.Psychol.), 2009, Southampton University

## Biography

Dawn Adams completed her undergraduate degree and Ph.D. in Psychology at the University of Birmingham. She then moved down to Southampton and completed her Doctorate in Clinical Psychology, specialising in Child Psychology and Neuropsychology.

Since this time Dawn has remained both in academia and clinical settings, working for both the Manchester and Royal Holloway Clinical Psychology Doctorate courses as Academic Tutor and Lecturer respectively. Recently, Dawn has returned to the University of Birmingham after being awarded a prestigious five-year NIHR post-doctoral fellowship grant to look at challenging behaviour in young children with genetic syndromes.

## Postgraduate supervision

I am currently co-supervising three PhD students with **[Professor Chris Oliver \(/staff/profiles/psychology/oliver-chris.aspx\)](/staff/profiles/psychology/oliver-chris.aspx)** in the school of Psychology within the field of challenging behaviour and behavioural phenotypes in children with intellectual disabilities.

## Research

### Research interests

My main research interests are in challenging behaviour, behavioural phenotypes and their interactions with the environment in children with intellectual disabilities.

My Post-Doctoral Fellowship from the NIHR aims to extend the work already conducted by Prof. Chris Oliver and his team at the Cerebra Centre for Neurodevelopmental Disorders to work towards understanding these behaviours and consequently, being able to intervene at an early stage.

### Research group

**[Cerebra Centre for Neurodevelopmental Disabilities \(http://www.cndd.bham.ac.uk/index.shtml\)](http://www.cndd.bham.ac.uk/index.shtml)**