

CURRICULUM VITAE - Summary version

Sara Dunn

Based in Dorset and London, United Kingdom

1. Key skills and competencies

- Consultancy in information management, communications and publishing strategy - covering both web and print
- Wide range of research skills, including research and evaluation planning and implementation
- E-learning consultancy, including strategic development in academic, vocational and work-based learning
- Wide range of writing and content creation skills, print and online, including mainstream journalism and technical writing in social care, health and education
- Usability and accessibility consultancy, user-focused design for print and online media, including accessibility for users with disabilities
- Project management, including budgeting, scheduling, research and writing, subcontracting, production liaison across print and web

2. Knowledge domains

- Social care, including statutory and voluntary sectors, service user involvement
- Health, including mental health, medical research, patient and public involvement
- Education, including FE, HE and vocational learning

3. Brief work history

I started my working life as an editor in the UK book trade in the early 1980s, becoming an independent consultant in 1990. I provide publishing, specialist writing and journalism services - mainly in the areas of health, social care and education - to a range of clients in the voluntary, public and private sectors.

In the mid-1990s I developed additional expertise in web publishing, user-focused design and e-learning. In 2003 I completed a Master's degree in electronic publishing, specialising in accessible e-learning for students with disabilities.

Since then I have provided strategic consultancy in a range of digital communications fields to health, social care and educational bodies, as well as continuing to provide publishing and editorial services.

4. Main areas of experience

4.1 Recent consultancy and research

Lead consultant: Multimedia advocacy for learning disability (2010-ongoing)
Researching routes to market for an e-learning resource on multimedia advocacy to support people with learning disabilities

Client: The Rix Centre

<http://www.rixcentre.org/>

Lead consultant: Options appraisal for social care portal (2010-ongoing)
Assessing options for online knowledge services for social care in England and Wales using desk research, comparator analysis and stakeholder consultation

Client: Social Care Institute for Excellence

<http://www.scie.org.uk/>

Project director: People management for direct employers (2009-ongoing)
Researching and writing a guide to people management skills for individuals who employ assistants to provide personal care services

Client: National Skills Academy for Social Care

<http://www.skillsacademyforsocialcare.org.uk/>

Research consultant: Wellbeing services for people with mental health problems (2009-ongoing)

Evaluating three local Mind associations adopting a wellbeing approach to delivering services to people with mental health problems

Client: Mind

<http://www.mind.org.uk/>

Lead consultant: Promoting research utilisation for Scottish social services (2009-2010)

Scoping and developing guidance on making use of formal research evidence for service redesign in social services in Scotland

Client: Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services

<http://www.iriss.org.uk/>

Lead consultant: Knowledge into practice: NHS Scotland E-library (2009)

Using critical incident technique to investigate the impact of NES E-library on clinical and organisational knowledge and practice, and inform plans for a health and social care portal

Client: NHS Education Scotland

<http://www.elib.scot.nhs.uk/>

Lead consultant: Scoping & feasibility study for Scottish social care knowledge portal (2007)

Assessing six current UK health and social care knowledge services and recommending options for a Scottish social services portal

Client: IRISS

<http://www.iriss.org.uk/>

Project director: Care Skillsbase (2006-2009)

R&D project to research, design, test and build web-based tools to help care employers manage staff communication and number skills

Client: Social Care Institute for Excellence

<http://www.scie-careskillsbase.org.uk>

Executive editor: Openmind (1997-2010)

Overseeing bi-monthly print magazine for a national mental health charity

Client: Mind

<http://www.mind.org.uk/Information/OM.htm>

Research consultant: Personalisation and workforce skills (2008)

Design and implement research project assessing relevance of skills support tools for direct employers and personal assistants

Client: Skills for Care

<http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk>

4.2 Selected journalism and technical writing

National Skills Academy for Social Care (2009)

Editor NSASC Business Plan; author and editor NSASC Corporate Plan

Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand (2008)
Principal editor, Realising Recovery: A paradigm shift in mental health services in New Zealand

Wellcome Trust (2000 ongoing)
Affiliated writer, print and online, for quarterly magazine for a large medical research charity

General journalism: occasional features and reviews for the Guardian, Observer, Community Practitioner, Health Matters, Time Out, Natural World amongst others, specialising in health, environmental issues and literature

4.3 Books

Mind Readings: Writers' Journeys through Mental States (1996)
Co-editor, with Blake Morrison and Michele Roberts
Publisher: Secker & Warburg; Waterstones Book of the Month selection

Beneath the Wide Wide Heaven: Environmental Poetry (1992)
Publishers: Virago UK; Ballantine USA

5. Education and training

City University, London (2002-2003)
MSc Electronic Publishing with distinction

Christ's College University of Cambridge (1981-1984)
BA Hons English Literature

6. Other

Member, Association for Learning Technologists
Fellow, Winston Churchill Memorial Trust

For more information see www.saradunn-associates.net