

VIVI HILLSDON



I am a professionally trained and experienced school counsellor working in both primary and secondary schools for a number of years. Until early 2023 I also worked part-time for a local authority-commissioned drug and alcohol service in South London, working with families and also running the counselling service where I led a team of volunteer professional counsellors.

I started my professional career in Sweden working with children with special needs and children of refugees. Since moving to the UK, I undertook postgraduate training in psychotherapy at Roehampton University whilst working 8 years in a pastoral care role in a large comprehensive school. I have therefore been exposed daily to the full range of challenges within a school setting and familiar with schools' safeguarding protocols and the variety of ways they promote students' wellbeing.

Though my mother-tongue is English, I am in fact Swedish by nationality and attended university there. But my mother was Indian and I grew up in the Middle East. From Sweden, I moved to Chile where I lived and worked as a language tutor for many years before settling in the UK in the early 2000s where I have family. I therefore have a naturally international outlook and cultural awareness, speaking fluent Spanish, French as well as Swedish.