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|  |  | Ruth Scotten Independent Social Worker, Therapeutic Life Story Work Practitioner, Trainer & Speaker |
| I have worked with children and families for 20 years in diverse environments, including, Local Authority, Education & Voluntary sectors. My experiences include working with early life trauma, therapeutic parenting, attachment, child protection, foster care and adoption.  My personal journey as an adopter influences much of my current work and adds another dimension to my practice. The influence of my children and their first family is the cornerstone of much of my work as an example of the importance of relationships and connection in working with families and supporting individuals in healing from trauma and looking towards a more positive future. Contact PHONE:  07856 443602  WEBSITE:  rootsofconnection.co.uk  EMAIL:  [ruth@rootsofconnection.co.uk](mailto:ruth@rootsofconnection.co.uk) |  | EDUCATION & TrainingUniversity of East Anglia 2004 - 2007  BA (Hons) Applied Social Work 2:1 Specialist Training \* Therapeutic Life Story Work \* Relationship Working \* Mental Health First Aid \* Effective Supervision \* Non Violent Resistance (NVR) \* Relationship Trauma \* Developmental Trauma \* Therapeutic Parenting \* Vicarious Trauma SKILLS **\* Creativity & Adaptability** Whether it’s finding different ways to help children understand their experiences or as in my own family challenging traditional views of post adoption ‘contact’ I enjoy looking for solutions ‘outside the box’ **\* Compassion** With my ability to ‘get alongside’ individuals I am often commended for ensuring families and individuals feel heard and understood, working closely with them to find their own unique approach to healing and personal development. **\* Honest & Open** Personal stories of my family journey, and, my own struggles and learning, alongside research enhances my work. WORKRoots of Connection – Independent Social Worker, Therapeutic Life Story Work Practitioner | Trainer & Speaker October 2019 – Current  I use a unique blend of my personal and professional experience to deliver bespoke packages of support and training. AdoptionPlus – Independent Adoption Panel Member January 2020 – current  Reviewing and responding to the suitability of prospective adoptive applicants to adopt, promoting good practice, consistency of approach and fairness in all aspects of the adoption service. Voluntary Work **Adoptive family support group** Facilitating a regular adoptive family get together, to provide an opportunity to share experiences and offer each other peer support.  **Management committee of a local children’s play charity**, developing focus on maintaining policies, safeguarding, staff support and supervision, and, nurture-based practice. |