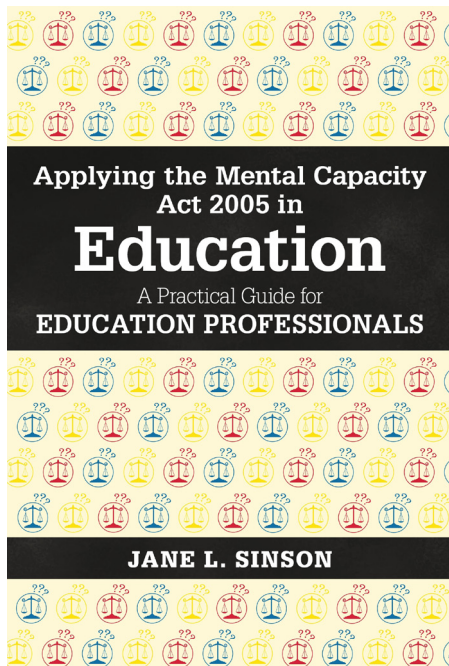




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Applying the Mental Capacity Act 2005 in Education

A Practical Guide for Education Professionals

by Jane L. Sinson

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Jane L. Sinson is an HCPC registered educational psychologist. She has undertaken capacity assessments of adults in Care Proceedings and presents training on the Mental Capacity Act and capacity assessments in education. She worked as a local authority educational psychologist for 20 years, prior to which she worked as a special needs teacher in a range of mainstream, resourced and special schools.

Written specifically for education professionals, this straightforward book explains the introduction of the **Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA)** and its **Code Practice (MCA COP)** as part of the **Children and Families Act 2014** and the accompanying **SEND COP**. This is the first book to comprehensively explain to educational professionals the legal requirement to follow **MCA COP** and **SEND COP** guidelines when formally considering a young person's (16-25) capacity to make decisions about their education.

Using education-focussed case studies throughout to illustrate key points this practical guide explains the MCA five principles, defines the term 'mental capacity'

and clarifies the circumstances in which a young person would lack capacity to make a decision.

It describes when a capacity assessment is likely to be required and presents a step-by-step guide to undertaking a capacity assessment.

In addition to this practical information the book includes a sample capacity assessment record form and a 'best interests' balance sheet for education professionals to give parents to assist them to make decisions that are in the young person's 'best interests'.

This is an essential guide for college tutors, post 16 teachers, specialist teachers, local authority SEN officers and educational psychologists.



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