

Contents

Foreword by Sir James Munby	vii
Acknowledgements	viii
List of cases	ix
Common abbreviations and terms	xi
1 Introducing child mental health and the law	1
Summary of major developments	2
The state of mental health services and the role of the CQC	4
The structure of the court system in England and Wales prior to 2014	5
The structure of the court system in England and Wales after 2014	5
The state of the family justice system	6
The scope of the book	7
Notes on individual chapters	8
2 The rights of the child	10
Convention articles	12
So what is a deprivation of liberty now?	18
From Europe to the United Nations	21
Conclusion	22
3 The Children Act 1989 and the 2004 amendments	23
An overview of the Children Act 1989	25
Part I: introductory	26
Part II, section 8: residence, contact and other orders	29
Part III: the child in need	30
Part IV, section 31: care and supervision	31
Part V: child protection	32
What amendments did the 2004 Act bring in?	34
Why might a child be assessed under the Children Act?	36
Conclusion	36

 CONTENTS

4	Consent to treatment	37
	What if valid consent is not given?	38
	What is consent needed for?	38
	What are the forms of consent?	38
	What is informed consent?	39
	The Montgomery case	40
	Consent by proxy	40
	The scope of parental responsibility	41
	Historical background: the Family Law Reform Act, Gillick and the refusal cases	42
	Professional guidelines	46
	So, when to involve the court?	49
	Decisions about admission and treatment	50
	Conclusion	52
5	Confidentiality	53
	First, what is meant by confidential patient information?	54
	What does the GMC say about confidentiality and young people?	55
	And the Department of Health?	56
	Confidentiality in <i>Gillick</i> and <i>Axon</i>	56
	Disclosing confidential information	59
	What exactly is meant by disclosures in the public interest?	59
	And finally for the record: access to health information about young people	62
	Conclusion	63
6	The Mental Health Act	64
	What are the main amendments of the MHA 2007 specific to children and young people?	66
	Principles, process and people	67
	Treatments	76
	The MHA sections in practice	78
	Conclusion	91
7	The Mental Capacity Act	92
	A note on the MCA Code of Practice	94
	The MCA and relevant sections	95
	The assessment of capacity: its contemporary legal origins	99
	Application of the MCA to young people aged 16 and 17	102

CONTENTS

Some notes on the relationship between the MHA and the MCA	104
Conclusion	106
8 Juvenile justice	108
The overnight detention of young people in custody	109
What about human rights and UN Conventions?	110
Secure accommodation	111
A note on the use of control and restraint	112
The age of criminal responsibility	112
What about very young offenders?	113
The police interview	114
Detained with a mental disorder without charge	115
A fair trial?	116
Fitness to plead and stand trial	116
Sentencing	117
Youth detention accommodation	118
The forensic sections of the Mental Health Act	119
Conclusion	122
References	123
Index	127