

## Who are Educational Psychologists?

Educational Psychologists (EPs) have specialist qualifications in psychology and educational psychology. They have experience of working with children and young people from 0 – 25 years.

EPs work together with children, young people, parents, carers, school staff and other professionals to help improve things in schools and learning settings.

EPs are regulated by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

## What does an Educational Psychologist do?

EPs use their knowledge of psychology, education, child development and special educational needs to look for ways forward.

EPs work to support the inclusion of children and young people with a range of educational needs including learning, social, emotional, behavioural, physical and sensory differences.

EPs carry out work in early years settings, mainstream schools, special educational placements or with families at home.

## How might an Educational Psychologist get involved?

All Staffordshire schools have a named Educational Psychologist. Access to the service is through the school.

A child or young person is usually brought to the attention of an EP by school staff after discussing concerns with parents or carers. Informed consent from parents/carers is required for EP involvement.

The EP will liaise closely with the school to agree and prioritise their work.

If you have concerns about your child or young person it is best to discuss this with school staff in the first instance.

## Ways in which Educational Psychologists work

EPs work in a variety of ways to promote positive change. It is not always necessary for the EP to see your child or young person: they might talk to you and school staff to agree on next steps. They may also offer staff training or group work. Should an EP become more directly involved they may gather information by:

- meeting and talking with you;
- talking with school staff and other professionals;
- observing in the classroom or playground;
- talking to your child;
- looking at school work;
- using activities and assessments.

The information gathered will be used with you and your child's teachers to help plan and review the best ways forward.

A small number of children and young people may require a Statutory Assessment of their special educational needs. EPs are asked to provide Psychological Advice for the Local Authority as part of this process.

## Contacts

Staffordshire Educational Psychology Service is based within 4 County Double Districts:

**Cannock and Lichfield**  
The Old Library, Bird Street,  
Lichfield, WS13 6PN  
Tel: 01543 512050

**East Staffordshire and Tamworth**  
Grange Street, Burton on Trent,  
DE14 2ER  
Tel: 01283 239755

**Newcastle and Moorlands**  
Seabridge Centre, Ash Way,  
Newcastle under Lyme, ST5 3UB  
Tel: 01782 297524

**Stafford and South Stafford**  
The Kingston Centre, Fairway  
Stafford, ST16 3TW  
Tel: 01785 356863

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## Educational Psychology Service



Information for Parents and Carers of school aged children and young people