Educational psychologists work in different ways to give support to schools, professionals and parents.

Consultation - schools can request involvement with an educational psychologist to talk about a child or young person's needs and how best to help them.

Assessment - assessment and formulation of needs through discussion with the adults who know the child or young person best (consultation), observation, dynamic assessment and the use of psychological tests / assessments as felt appropriate by the educational psychologist.

Problem-solving - An educational psychologist facilitates problem solving through solution-focused approaches. They may work with adults around the individual, provide supervision groups to school staff or facilitate person-centred approaches.

Statutory role – we have a statutory role for the council in providing psychological advice as part of education, health and care needs assessments and associated statutory processes.

Supporting staff development – this may include delivering training and providing advice around the delivery of interventions.

Research and evaluation — we are sometimes involved in planning, carrying out and evaluating research.

Contact details

Any queries can be directed to the Educational Psychology Team based at

Church Square House,

30-40 High Street

Scunthorpe

DN15 6NL

nledpsychology@northlincs.gov.uk

The Team

Rachel Woodford is the Principal Educational Psychologist. The team is made up of Educational Psychologists who hold a professional qualification in educational psychology and who are all registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

North Lincolnshire Educational Psychology supports the training of new Educational Psychologists. At any time there will be trainee educational psychologists working with us who are undertaking a Doctorate in Applied Educational Psychology.

Safe Well Prosperous Connected

Virtual School & Inclusion

Educational Psychology

Information for Parents and Carers

Working with parents, carers and other adults to help children and young people grow and develop.

North Lincolnshire Council

What is an educational psychologist?

Educational psychologists work with children and young people aged 0-25. They believe every child and young person, with or without SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities), has the ability to achieve and learn new skills, to enjoy positive emotional health and well-being, and have the right to belong and be included in education and their community.

Educational psychologists specialise in using psychology to create positive change for children and young people. We are confident that the thoughtful application of psychology can transform children's lives for the better. We believe that children thrive when they are included and we are committed to supporting parents and schools to help this happen.

Educational psychologists understand how children develop, learn new skills and what makes a difference to building their resilience. The aim of the work of an educational psychologist is to understand what is needed to support a child or young person. This is done through: exploring their journey; identifying their strengths and any concerns; and considering what makes a positive difference.

Educational psychologists work very closely with parents and carers. They always ask for consent to be involved and for their views.

Educational psychologists always try and ask children and young people for their own views. Educational psychologists generally meet children and young people in their schools but will sometimes visit at home.

Educational psychologists also work closely with other professionals working with a child or young person.

How to ask for our involvement

Most children and young people with SEND will have their needs met through their educational setting and staff may get advice from other professionals, for example specialist teachers or practitioners. However, sometimes an educational psychologist may be asked to help. If you think your child may require educational psychology involvement:

1) Talk to the SENCO at your child or young person's nursery, school or college.

OR

2) Contact the Educational Psychology Service if you are worried about the progress or needs of your child or young person for informal discussion about appropriate next steps.

What to expect if an educational psychologist becomes involved with your child

The educational psychologist will:

Tell you about the work they do and the purpose of their involvement

Talk to you and other adults about your child or young person's strengths and needs

Plan with you and other adults the work they will do to help your child or young person

They may need to:

Observe your child or young person while they are playing or working at a task

Work with your child or young person in a group

Work with your child or young person on their own at school or at home

Talk to your child or young person about what they like and do not like doing

They will aim to:

Develop a shared understanding of your child's strengths and needs

Agree targets, strategies and interventions to help your child or young person make progress

Help your child or young person feel more confident about themselves