

getting
it right
for every child



Further Information about the Educational Psychology Service can be found at:

[http://www.shetland.gov.uk/education/
EducationalPsychologyService.asp](http://www.shetland.gov.uk/education/EducationalPsychologyService.asp)

Further Information about the Education Outreach Group (Additional Support Needs) can be found at:

[http://www.shetland.gov.uk/education/
EducationOutreach.asp](http://www.shetland.gov.uk/education/EducationOutreach.asp)

The Educational Psychology Service: Information for Parents and Carers

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SHETLAND ISLANDS COUNCIL



The Educational Psychology Service :

Information for Parents and Carers



Who are Educational Psychologists?

- The Educational Psychology Service is part of the Schools and Quality Improvement Service, Children's Services, Shetland Islands Council.
- Educational Psychologists are required to have an honours degree in psychology, a postgraduate degree in educational psychology and a background in working with children and young people.
- They are trained to work together with school staff, parents/carers and other professionals to help children and young people to achieve their potential.

What happens when an Educational Psychologist becomes involved?

- In the first instance the Educational Psychologist or a member of the wider Education Outreach Group Additional Support Needs (ASN) will discuss the issue relating to learning and teaching with school staff.
- Where it is agreed that formal involvement of the Educational Psychologist might be helpful, School staff will complete a Request for Involvement form which will be considered by the ASN Outreach Group.
- When an Educational Psychologist becomes involved much of the work is done through a consultation meeting. This will take the form of a problem solving discussion where relevant information is gathered and ideas are shared to create strategies and solutions.
- This meeting will involve yourself, school staff, the Psychologist and any others who can helpfully contribute to this problem solving approach.
- It may be helpful for your child to attend the meeting, particularly if he or she is in secondary school.
- A written record of the meeting will be sent to you and others who were present.
- A follow-up review meeting may be held to review the success of actions and decide if any further action is needed.

How does an Educational Psychologist become involved?

- If you have any concerns about your child it is best to share them with school staff first as many problems can be solved in school without the involvement of an Education Psychologist.
- School staff will discuss involving the Educational Psychology Service with you and will contact the service if it is agreed it might be helpful.
- You are free to contact the Educational Psychology Service directly if you would prefer.

Will the Education Psychologist work directly with my child?

Sometimes gathering information about your child may involve:

- Observing you child in school or nursery
- Looking at your child's school work
- Reviewing information already available

And in a small number of cases:

- Playing with your child
- Talking and listening to your child
- Using assessment materials.

How else might Educational Psychologists help?

Sometimes the best way for Educational Psychologists to help is through:

- Advice and training for Early Years/school staff
- Working closely with other professionals
- Projects that help improve learning and teaching
- Group work with pupils
- Training projects for pupils
- Advice and workshops for parents.