

## **Fife Council Educational Psychology Service Information for Parents and Carers**

### **1. What is an Educational Psychologist?**

Educational Psychologists share their knowledge of psychology to improve educational outcomes for young people who need it most.

We are employed by the local authority to work with nurseries, primaries, secondaries and more specialist provisions. We work with schools, parents/carers and young people to overcome barriers to learning. We do this by applying psychology and research to understand behaviour, feelings, thinking and relationships and how these impact on learning.

### **2. How we become involved**

Every Fife Council Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) setting and school has a link educational psychologist. If you are concerned about your child's progress or development in education, the first person to contact would be someone from your child's ELC or school.

An education setting can contact their link educational psychologist for advice and support through a No Names Consultation. This would mean there is advice around a

specific issue given but no names are recorded, and the pupil is not identified. This means that the EP service will not know your child or keep any records on them.

If you and the school/ELC continue to have concerns about your child's learning, development or behaviour, the school/ELC may seek further advice from us through a Request for Assistance and your permission will be required for this. We will only become involved with your child with your permission. If your child is over the age of 12, we would need their permission too. The role of the EP would be negotiated with the person requesting support.

### **3. How we work**

Educational psychologists contribute to a shared assessment process with school, young people, parents/carers and other agencies that are involved, such as Speech and Language Therapists or Social Work. We aim to identify and understand a child's strengths and areas where they need additional help. This supports the process of identifying any additional support needs. This work may directly involve the child or young person which would be discussed and agreed with you and your child in advance. However, we

can often support your child without having any face-to-face involvement with them if this is felt to be the most effective and best way to help.

The ways that an educational psychologist may gather assessment information include:

- Consultation with relevant school/ELC staff who know your child well
- observation of your child
- discussion with families
- discussion with other agencies
- direct contact with the child or young person (if appropriate).

Educational Psychologists provide advice and support on strategies and supports for interventions within an educational setting. We also offer training and school development and are involved in research and evaluation work within schools and the Education and Children's Services Directorate.



#### 4. What happens next?

We may be involved for a short time at key points to provide advice and to allow support plans to be put in place and reviewed. If there are concerns about your child's progress which are ongoing, we may be involved in the assessment and planning processes on a longer-term basis.

As part of the process, the educational psychologist will feedback any assessment information through a meeting with you and your child and will work alongside staff to explore how to make things better for your child.

Educational psychologists will contribute to the appropriate school record keeping process through e.g. a summary of support of Child Plan

You will always be given a copy of any plans about your child from the school.

#### How to contact us:

Please visit our website for more information:

[Educational Psychology Service | Fife Council](#)

Should you wish to contact us please email us on:

[psychological.service@fife.gov.uk](mailto:psychological.service@fife.gov.uk)

Or please phone the telephone numbers on the front of the leaflet.

We welcome feedback from parents/ carers about the service we offer. You can click on this link to [complete a short survey](#) about how useful you have found our service, or scan the QR code below.



## Fife Council Educational Psychology Service

### Information for parents

Please visit our website for more information:

[Educational Psychology Service | Fife Council](#)

#### Kirkcaldy/ Glenrothes Team:

4<sup>th</sup> Floor West  
Fife House  
North Street  
Glenrothes  
KY7 5LT

Tel: 01592 583348

#### Dunfermline/ West Fife Team:

Kings Road Primary  
School  
King's Crescent  
Rosyth  
KY11 2RS

Tel: 01383 602379

#### NE Fife & Levenmouth Team:

County Buildings  
St Catherine Street  
Cupar  
KY15 4TA

Tel: 01334 659327

