

West Lothian Psychological Service Information for Parents



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**West Lothian
Council**

Information for Parents

Who are Educational Psychologists

Educational Psychologists are employed by the council and work in all schools and council run nurseries within the authority. Each Educational Psychologist has a degree in psychology as well as further post-graduate training in Educational Psychology. The team in West Lothian are therefore well qualified individuals with substantial experience of working with children and young people. They use their knowledge of psychology, learning and education to provide support to schools, children and families. They work in collaboration with teachers and other professionals to help children and young people make the most of their lives, particularly in educational settings.

Educational Psychologists work with a wide range of people in order to ensure a collaborative approach to supporting children and young people. These can include: school / education based staff, professionals from other agencies (e.g. social policy, health), parents / carers and of course, the individual child / young person.



What do they do?

Consultation

Educational Psychologists work in a variety of ways that will best serve the needs of children and young people brought to their attention. This includes talking to anyone in the school or at home who can help them to understand what may be affecting your child's progress. Consultation also includes generating ideas about what may help. It often takes place in school, always with your permission.

Assessment

The Psychologist may be involved in assessing your child's needs through a range of techniques. They may have further discussions with you and with other people who know your child, to gather more information. Assessment sometimes includes a class or school observation or some direct work with your child.

Intervention

The Psychologist may work with your child individually or in a group to address their needs. It may be that they work with you to help you improve things at home. They aim to bring people together to work in partnership as this helps to achieve the best outcomes for all children.

When does an Educational Psychologist become involved?

School and Nursery

For children and young people in West Lothian's schools and nurseries, there are well-established systems in place for monitoring individual progress, and identifying needs for additional support. This starts at the classroom level, where the teacher knows the children best, and will put measures into place to address any problems that arise. Sometimes the teacher may need advice or assistance from others within the school, such as the learning support teacher, to help the child concerned and to set targets for progress. These targets will then be reviewed on a regular basis.

Schools may also consult their Educational Psychologist for additional advice, with parental consent. This would involve the Psychologist meeting with staff and parents to discuss the situation, perhaps looking over examples of a child's work, and possibly carrying out an observation in order to provide the best possible advice. Following a further period of review, formal referral to the Educational Psychologist might be considered necessary. This will involve the Psychologist carrying out a series of tasks, as agreed at a pre-referral meeting, and then reporting back to parents and professionals.

Pre-Nursery

For pre-nursery children, an Educational Psychologist may become involved at the direct request of a parent or, with parental consent, as requested by a support agency (eg Health Visitor, Speech and Language Therapist). This would happen where there are concerns over a child's development that may affect their educational progress.

If I am concerned about the service provided what should I do?

If you have any concerns about the service then it should be discussed in the first instance with the Psychologist involved. If this does not resolve the situation, then you can ask to speak to the Psychologist's line manager or to the Principal Psychologist.

Please do tell us if you have a complaint, wish to praise something, or have a suggestion for us. It is hoped that through good communication and co-operation any concerns can be addressed quickly and efficiently in order to ensure the best outcomes for children and young people.

Information is available in Braille, on tape, in LARGE PRINT and community languages etc



For further information contact

**Principal Psychologist
Ogilvie House
Ogilvie Way
Knightsridge
Livingston EH54 8HL**

Tel: 01506 775800

Information is available in Braille, on tape, in large print and community languages.
Please contact the Interpretation and Translation Service on 0131 242 8181.

هذه المعلومات متوفرة بلغة بريل وعلى شريط ويخط كبير وبلغات الجالية.
الرجاء الإتصال بخدمة الترجمة على الهاتف 0131 242 8181

এই তথ্য আপনি ব্রইল, টেপ, বড় অক্ষরে এবং কমিউনিটির বিভিন্ন ভাষাগুলিতেও পাবেন। অনুগ্রহ করে ইন্টারপ্রিটেশন অ্যান্ড ট্রান্সলেশন সার্ভিসের সঙ্গে যোগাযোগ করুন। টেলি: 0131 242 8181

這份資料是可以凸字、錄音帶、大字印刷及社區語言的式本提供。請聯絡傳譯及翻譯服務部，電話：0131 242 8181

ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ (ਬ੍ਰੇਲ) ਟੈਪਿੰਗ ਤੇ ਪੜ੍ਹਣ ਵਾਲੀ ਸਿੱਖੀ, ਵੱਡੇ ਫਿੰਟ ਅਤੇ ਸਮੂਹ ਦੀਆਂ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। ਪਿੱਛਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇੰਟਰਪ੍ਰੀਟੇਸ਼ਨ ਅਤੇ ਟਰਾਂਸਲੇਸ਼ਨ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਨੰਬਰ ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ : 0131 242 8181

یہ معلومات بریل (انحصار کے رسم الخط)، ٹیپ، بڑے حروف کی طبعیت اور کمیونٹی میں ہونے والی زبانوں میں دستیاب ہے۔ براؤزر ہائیڈرو ٹینگ اینڈ ٹرانسلیٹنگ سروس سے ٹیلیفون نمبر 0131 242 8181 پر رابطہ قائم کریں۔

Informacje te mogą być przekazane na język Braille'a, dostępne na taśmie magnetofonowej lub wydane dużym drukiem oraz przetłumaczone na języki mniejszości narodowych.
Prosimy o kontakt z Usługami Tłumaczeniowymi pod numerem 0131 242 8181.

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