

# Educational Psychology Service

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In line with national agreements Falkirk Council only employs educational psychologists who are chartered or are eligible to be chartered.



**Falkirk Council**



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**F**alkirk Council Educational Psychology Service is part of Education Services. The Educational Psychology Service provides consultation and advice, mainly about school or education based issues, concerning children and young people in the age range 0–24 years. Educational psychologists work mostly through schools, with each school and nursery school having a link educational psychologist.

When there are concerns about a pupil's learning or behaviour a school may request parents' /carers' permission to invite the school link educational psychologist to join a review or planning meeting for the pupil.

Educational psychologists only become involved with parents' /carers' agreement when working with pupils under 16. They will keep parents advised of what they plan to do. Educational psychologists will seek to ensure that the views of the young person are taken into account.

Parents/carers and young people can request the involvement of their educational psychologist - through direct contact with the Service or through discussion with the school/nursery.

On becoming involved, the educational psychologist may consult with staff, parents/carers, observe in class and, where appropriate, talk with the pupil.

Using their knowledge of child development and learning, educational psychologists help identify educational needs, give advice to teachers and parents/carers, and contribute to planning to support a pupil's learning.

An educational psychologist contributes to the assessment process in response to the concerns and issues identified by those who are already involved with a pupil. The assessment process informs future teaching and support measures which promote a pupil's progress and general well being.

Examples of when an educational psychologist might become involved include:

- *when a primary 7 pupil requires extra planning in the transition to secondary school*
- *when schools are devising strategies to support pupils*
- *when a pupil in secondary school requires extra planning in the transition to college or employment.*
- *when schools request support with staff development on additional support needs issues*

Through involvement in training, research and project work educational psychologists contribute to developments in schools which support the learning and progress of all pupils, including those with additional support needs.