

# Support from an Educational Psychologist



## What an Educational Psychologist does:

- Supports schools and families to understand and meet a variety of children's needs
- Helps schools and families to address challenges affecting all children's learning and wellbeing
- Helps schools and families to address challenges which might be more specific to individual children's learning and wellbeing
- Listens to concerns and hopes from school, home and children themselves
- Develops an informed and rounded understanding of wider or individual challenges. These might be related to learning, social and emotional wellbeing, communication and interaction, and/or sensory based
- Problem-solves together with home and school to help school support individual children's needs
- Recommends and helps implement evidence-based and evidence-informed actions, matched to particular needs and challenges
- Uses strengths and existing successes to move towards ideal outcomes
- Appreciates and acknowledges the challenges all people face, from a non-judgemental and accepting point of view
- Applies specialist psychological knowledge to understand children's strengths and needs together with the people who know the child best

## What an Educational Psychologist does not do:

- Does not diagnose medical conditions
- Does not describe children's needs using basic or misunderstood 'labels'
- Does not look for 'something wrong with' a child
- Does not judge people, including parents, teachers, or children themselves
- Does not enforce their recommendations in any way
- Does not impose their personal views (e.g. political, religious or otherwise)