

## The Educational Psychology Team

### What is an Educational Psychologist?

Educational Psychologists (sometimes called EPs) have in depth knowledge and understanding of child development at a masters and doctorate level and are registered with the HCPC. They are trained to work with school staff, parents, carers and other professionals to support teaching, learning and behaviour.

### What do they do?

The Educational Psychology Team works in a range of different ways to promote the inclusion and wellbeing of all our children and young people, especially those who are vulnerable or who have additional or special needs. These include:

- Working with all educational settings on a regular basis, using a problem solving approach called 'consultation'
- Working with parents/carers to help understand and explain difficulties at home and at school
- Facilitating training for teachers and other staff/professionals on all aspects of child development and social and emotional factors and their impact across the lifespan, including interventions and increased knowledge around different needs
- Project work and research to enhance teaching and learning
- Capacity building with schools and other organisations to support positive change
- Working with other professionals e.g. Social Care, SALT, CEAT
- Consultations and therapeutic interventions to support emotional health and wellbeing at an individual, group and whole school level

Educational Psychologists also contribute to the statutory education, health and care assessments, undertaken for children and young people with the most complex and significant special educational needs.

### How do Educational Psychologists work?

Their overall aim is to bring about positive change for children and young people, where there are concerns about learning, behaviour and/or emotional well-being. Educational Psychologists subscribe to a model that views problems and solutions arising from the interaction between children and their learning abilities and styles, the environments in which they live and learn, the curriculum opportunities they are provided with and the expectations of peers, school staff and families, their early development and lifespan experiences. Ways of addressing difficulties may lie in adjusting the environment, teaching and other factors in such a way as to remove any barriers to successful learning and progress and meaningful contributions to successful relationships.

### Where will you find them?

The Educational Psychology Team is based at Macclesfield Town Hall

**Who can I contact?** Nicola West – Principal Educational Psychologist – see below

## The Educational Psychology Team