

“What is Educational Psychology Assessment?”

“A [collaborative] process which involves the gathering of information from a variety of sources in a range of settings over a period of time. It necessarily involves parents, carers, teachers, children and young people. The purpose of educational psychology assessment is to inform future interventions.”

(ASPEP, April 2005)

Every professional should consider:

- What is getting in the way of this young person's wellbeing?
- Do I have all the information I need to help this young person?
- What can I do now to help this young person?
- What can my agency do to help this young person?
- What additional help, if any, may be needed from others?

(GIRFEC National Practice Model, 2016)

“How is information gathered?”

By Teachers/Keyworkers:

- in-class assessments;
- observations of the child & environment or
- by completing tools such as checklists provided by the EP or other agencies.

By the Educational Psychologist (EP):

EPs gather information in meetings with teachers, parents & young people. In some situations the EP may decide that they need to gather information directly e.g.

- observation in the classroom;
- use of particular forms of assessment with the young person.

This information will be captured in the EP's assessment framework.

It is important to listen to what the **young person** says about their experiences. An adult that the young person trusts is usually the best person to work with them to gather their views.

Parents & carers also have a key part to play in contributing their own views to the process.



Understanding Educational Psychology Assessment

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People who know the young person best often have all the information we need to make a plan. Meetings with teachers, parents & young people provide valuable assessment information.



If more information is needed, the EP can help others to gather this or sometimes they can gather it themselves.



This information will be discussed at a meeting & will inform EP advice about needs and support plans. EPs have a knowledge of psychology & child development which they use to help make sense of the information.

“ **What does collaborative assessment look like?** ”

Educational psychologists (EPs) work together with schools, families & other important people in a young person's life to find possible solutions when things aren't going so well.



When a plan is agreed, the collaborative assessment process can continue, to make sure that the plan is helping.



EPs use skills in questioning, listening & bringing together complex information to help people come to a shared understanding.

