



Stockton-on-Tees
BOROUGH COUNCIL



Job Description

Principal Educational Psychologist

Job details

Grade:	Soulbury 8-14 (ability to apply for up to 3 SPA points)
Directorate:	Children's Services
Reporting to:	Service Lead - SEND Placement and Governance
Location:	Dunedin House, Stockton-on-Tees
Contract:	Full time (up to 37 hours)

Job Summary:

You will lead, manage and develop a high-quality Educational Psychology Service that delivers effective, timely and impactful support for children, young people, families, schools and partner agencies. You will play a key strategic role in shaping and driving SEND improvement across the borough, contributing to policy development, service transformation and inclusive practice.

This is a unique opportunity to build and shape the Educational Psychology team, creating a culture of collaboration, innovation and continuous improvement. You will provide professional leadership, supervision and development opportunities for Educational Psychologists and Assistant Educational Psychologists, ensuring the service is well positioned to meet current and future needs.

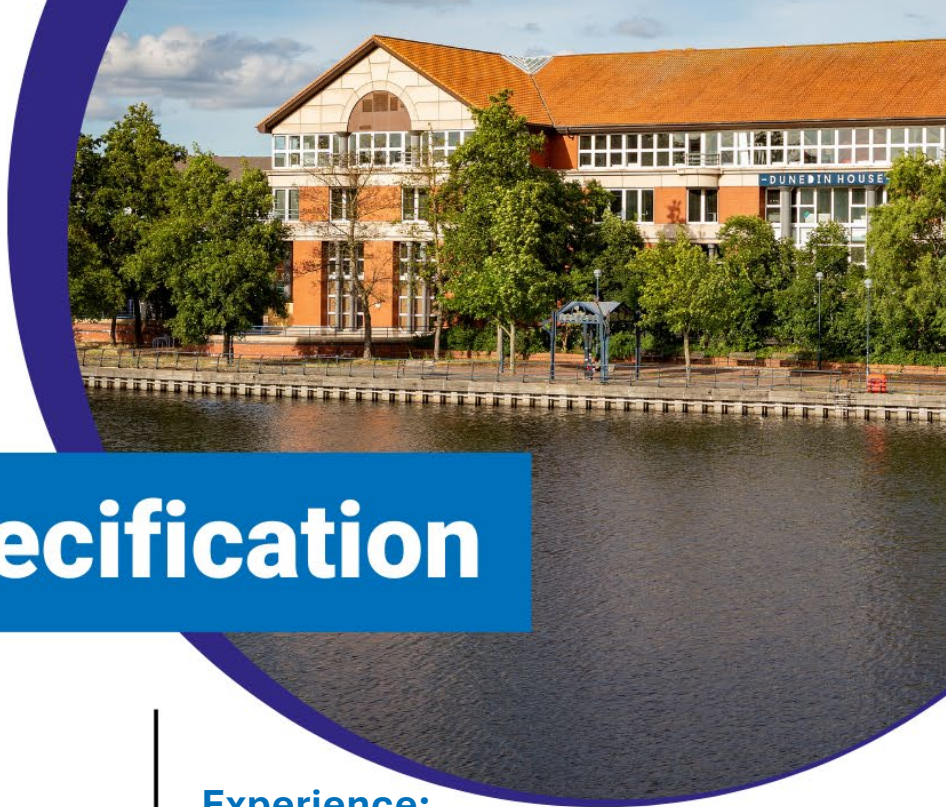
Supported by colleagues across Education, Health and Care, you will champion creative and evidence-based approaches that improve outcomes for children and young people Services.

Your day to day:

- Recruit, lead and manage a team of Educational Psychologists and Assistant Educational Psychologists, ensuring high-quality, inclusive support for vulnerable children and young people. Developing a grown our own model.
- Oversee the planning, development and delivery of Educational Psychology services and the local offer to improve outcomes for children, young people and families.
- Develop, deliver and monitor a high-quality, financially sustainable traded service, evaluating impact and outcomes across the borough.
- Ensure service delivery complies with HCPC and British Psychological Society professional standards, ethics and competencies.
- Manage and oversee the Educational Psychology Service budget effectively.
- Provide clinical supervision and support the ongoing professional development of Educational Psychology staff.
- Ensure effective advice, guidance and support are available to children, families, schools, settings, post-16 providers and partner agencies.
- Contribute to strategic decision-making and the development of SEND policies, procedures and practice.
- Work collaboratively with SEND leaders and the wider Education, Inclusion and Achievement Service to develop and implement SEND strategies.
- Undertake casework as required, including psychological assessments, interventions and the preparation of Psychological Advice.
- Foster strong multi-agency partnerships with education, health, social care and other services.
- Oversee Trainee Educational Psychologists and maintain partnerships with doctorate training providers to support service sustainability.



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Personal Specification

Essential criteria

Qualifications:

- Honours Degree in Psychology providing eligibility for Graduate Basis for Chartered (GBC) membership of the British Psychological Society (BPS).
- HCPC-recognised postgraduate qualification in Educational Psychology.
- Registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).
- Evidence of continuous professional development, including strategic leadership and application of emerging Educational Psychology practice.

Knowledge and skills:

- Strong knowledge of Educational Psychology legislation, guidance, standards and professional practice requirements.
- Detailed understanding of SEND legislation, statutory processes and Local Authority responsibilities.
- Up-to-date knowledge of best practice and developments within Educational Psychology.
- Understanding of inclusive education principles and approaches.
- Knowledge of the roles and responsibilities of key partners across Health, Social Care and Education.
- Understanding of equality, diversity and inclusion legislation and its application in practice.

Experience:

- Post-qualification experience as an Educational Psychologist, including experience of working within or alongside Local Authority services.
- Experience of leading, managing, supervising and performance reviewing Educational Psychologists and Assistant Educational Psychologists.
- Experience of data analysis, report writing and delivering high-quality training.
- Experience of safeguarding children and young people.
- Experience of working with vulnerable children, young people and families aged 0-25.
- Proven ability to build and maintain effective partnerships with stakeholders and multi-agency professionals.

Behaviours:

- Demonstrate the Council's Behaviours which underpin the Culture Statement
- Ability to handle difficult situations.
- Resilient
- Ability to work independently and use your own initiative
- Proactive in dealing with issues and projects
- Ability to work corporately

Other requirements:

- Independent travel



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Personal Specification

Desirable criteria

- Management qualification
- Experience of leading or working within a traded service
- Experience of managing budgets Application / Interview Application / Interview

General (for all Council colleagues)

- **Job Evaluation:** This job description supports grading under the NJC Job Evaluation scheme adopted by Stockton Council.
- **Flexibility:** Duties listed are not exhaustive; additional tasks may be required within the scope of the role.
- **Values & Conduct:** Act in line with Council Values, Behaviours, Code of Conduct, professional standards, and promote equality and diversity.
- **Corporate Parenting:** Share the Council's ambition for children in care and care-experienced young people to thrive and be protected from harm.
- **Personal Development:** Take responsibility for your own learning and growth, as outlined in the Council's Culture Statement.
- **Customer Service:** Deliver consistently high-quality service to all internal and external customers.
- **Policies & Procedures:** Comply with all Council policies and procedures.
- **Health & Safety:** Maintain personal safety and follow Council health and safety requirements.
- **Safeguarding:** Be alert to potential abuse of children and vulnerable adults and act in accordance with the Council's Safeguarding Policy.



North East
Better Health
at Work Award
Ambassador Status

