

I want to be an.....

Educational Psychologist

Educational psychologists use psychological methods, theories and research to help children and young people who are experiencing difficulties in education. These can include learning, behavioural, social or emotional problems. Educational psychologists assess a young person's problem by observation, discussion and consultation with teachers, parents and other professionals.

Most educational psychologists are employed by Local Education Authorities and their work may include conducting research and providing training for teachers and other professionals. Other employers include Social Services, universities and pediatric assessment units within the NHS.

Qualifications and training

To become an Educational Psychologist you need:

- Graduate basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) - a degree (Usually a 2:1 or equivalent) in Psychology from a BPS (British Psychological Society) approved course. If you have a 2.2 you **may** need a masters/higher degree.
- Relevant work experience within an educational, community or childcare setting
- Educational psychology professional entry training in England is a three-year, full-time doctorate degree. The courses generally consist of a first year spent studying full time. In the second and third years, trainees work in a local authority or other provider of educational psychology services (such as a school partnership or independent service provider) as a trainee educational psychologist, with one to two days study per week.
- For Scotland only, an accredited masters course in Educational Psychology followed by the Society's Award in Educational Psychology.

In order to use the title Educational Psychologist, you will need to be registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

Work Experience

It is essential to gain relevant experience working with children in education, childcare or a community setting. Admissions teams for the Doctorates will look for evidence that you have applied your psychology knowledge in your roles. Relevant experience could include:

- Assistant educational psychologist
- Advice line worker (Childline/Samaritans)
- Assistant in a special school/pupil referral unit
- Teaching assistant / learning support assistant / Early years worker
- Learning mentor /Homework club volunteer
- Residential care worker/Foster care
- Camp counsellor

The University of Manchester Careers Service – Psychology Careers Team (Aug, 2019)

Contact: bmhcareers@manchester.ac.uk

Where to find work experience vacancies/volunteering

- Teaching assistants, early years vacancies, details of homework clubs can all be found on Local Council websites – see the Jobs go public website www.jobsgopublic.com
- Vacancies in Manchester Schools www.teach-manchester.org/Vacancies/Browse/List.aspx
- Children and Young People Now Jobs www.cypnowjobs.co.uk

The Careers Service advertises vacancies in summer camps on Careerslink www.manchester.ac.uk/careerslink

Volunteering opportunities can also be found at:

www.childrenengland.org.uk

www.nspcc.org.uk

www.barnardos.org.uk

www.actionforchildren.org.uk

Educational Psychology: Useful Websites

- **Association of Educational Psychologists.**
The professional association for educational psychologists in the United Kingdom.
www.aep.org.uk/careers www.aep.org.uk/training/
- **Department for Education home page**
Most Local Education Authorities will advertise vacancies through their local Council website. This website lists the contact details of every LEA in the UK.
www.education.gov.uk
- **The BPS Division of Educational and Child Psychology**
www.bps.org.uk/member-microsites/division-educational-child-psychology

Find Manchester graduates doing this role

LinkedIn

Use LinkedIn to see and connect with other psychology graduates from UoM who have gone into this and other roles. You can filter for “Psychology” graduates on the second page of the alumni tab, or just search for the job title you are looking for.

www.linkedin.com/school/university-of-manchester/

Join the **Psychology Graduate Network** just for Manchester students & graduates on LinkedIn and view members here too: www.bit.ly/psychologynetwork

The alumni office run **The Manchester Network** which is a similar platform for all Manchester alumni. You can also use this tool to send alumni any questions about their work. www.network.manchester.ac.uk

More information about the role

Read the Prospects job profile: www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/educational-psychologist

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