

EDUCATION OUTREACH CONSULTANCY

What is Education Outreach Consultancy...

Education Outreach is a service which assesses your child's educational environment and looks at how he or she currently interacts with their peers and teachers. It then recommends adjustments which will account for differences in learning style as well as offering evidence-informed strategies to assist your child achieve their potential in their school placement.

Why might your child benefit from an Education Outreach Consultant...

- If they are having trouble engaging with the curriculum.
- If they are having trouble managing their emotional reactions and behaviour in school.
- If they are experiencing difficulty managing sensory impacts in school.
- If the child's increasing anxiety is obviously directly linked to being in school and this changes their behaviour and general well-being.
- If school-refusal is an issue for your child.
- If social isolation at school is a reality for your child.
- If bullying and teasing is a regular occurrence.
- Do they ask why they do not have friends at school.
- If they have difficulty focusing and maintaining interest at school.
- Meltdowns and emotional outbursts when they come home from school.
- Aggression and abusive behaviour escalating in the home and/or school.
- Frequent detention and/or suspension.
- If the transition from one school to another (e.g. pre-school to K, Yr 6 to Yr 7, Yr 12 to post-school) is a worry.



What happens in an Education Outreach Consultancy session and how will it benefit my child...

There are three sections to the Consultation process which will usually take a day to complete – although your child is only involved for a maximum of two hours and he or she is usually unaware of what is happening. The aim is to observe as near normal behaviours as possible.

- The Education Outreach Consultant will observe your child in the classroom for a session (primary) or 2 periods (secondary) observing how they function. Primary focuses for observation are changes in behaviour because of unwanted stimuli, the child's reactions to changing demands in the classroom, and their capacity to engage successfully with the curriculum content.
- This observation is then followed immediately by a case conference with all stakeholders (school, family and therapists) to discuss goals, strengths and differences, concerns and issues. The consultant will then propose strategies which might help the child manage their own behaviour. These will be supported by resources which will help the school staff implement the strategies agreed on.
- A final summative report will be written which sets the agreed strategies in an evidence-based framework, directly addressing the student's needs. This report will give clear guidelines for the family and school on which strategies will be needed and the processes to be followed to support the child both academically and emotionally (Positive Behaviour Support).

An Education Outreach Consultant works to relieve tension, inform stakeholders and establish a consistent, fair and positive approach to your child's experience at school.



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