

# DR MICHAEL PALMER

## Educational and Child Psychologist

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An HCPC and BPS registered psychologist with doctoral training in applied educational and child psychology qualified to complete a range of standardised and dynamic assessments to consider developmental and clinical needs. This includes qualified practitioner status for the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule 2nd Edition (ADOS 2) and is supported by research completed for a doctoral thesis exploring multi-disciplinary autism diagnosis with educational psychologists (EPs) and paediatricians. Experience has also been gained leading in the development of multi-disciplinary diagnostic teams for autism spectrum disorders and other comorbid developmental needs.

### EXPERIENCE

- 05/2023 - Current **University of Manchester**
- Support doctoral trainees in Educational and Child Psychology through mock viva interviews, academic reviews, and feedback on thesis preparation.
- 10/2022 - Current **Paediatric Chartered Psychologist with Specialist Practitioner Status, Spire Hospital Manchester**
- Deliver psychological and developmental assessments for children and young adults, including complex mental health and diagnostic evaluations, while collaborating with multidisciplinary teams.
- 09/2021 - Current **Partner Educational Psychologist, Catalyst Psychology, Community Interest Company**
- Provide assessment, intervention, and consultation services to schools under service agreements.
  - Lead the development of an Emotional Health and Wellbeing service and contribute to a ten-year business strategy.
  - Implement supervision models and expand service offerings through team development.
- 03/2021 - Current **Director and Chartered Psychologist, Growth Psychology Services Limited**
- Offer assessment and consultation for EHCPs across multiple local authorities, adapting processes to meet statutory requirements and deadlines.
  - Successfully negotiated contracts based on feedback regarding quality and time.
- 10/2020 - 09/2021 **Educational Psychologist, Tower Hamlets Educational Psychology Service**
- Conducted traded and statutory EP work, developed policies for digital wellbeing, and led a parent support line during COVID-19 restrictions.
  - Authored practice documents on emotionally based school avoidance and problematic internet use.
- 09/2019 - 09/2020 **Educational Psychologist, Birmingham Educational Psychology Service**
- Delivered statutory and non-routine EP work across schools, including pupil referral units, while contributing to autism diagnosis teams and critical incident support.

- 05/2017 - 07/2019 **Trainee Educational Psychologist, Birmingham Educational Psychology Service**
- Supported schools with assessments, consultations and therapeutic interventions, while completing research on autism diagnosis in multidisciplinary teams.
  - Representation of the EP service at local multi-disciplinary panels for autism diagnosis, working with paediatricians to consider complex presentations of need
  - Attendance to give evidence in family court after being asked to provide an appropriate psychological report under scrutiny in care proceedings against a family
- 10/2016 - 03/2017 **Trainee Educational Psychologist, Wolverhampton Educational Psychology Service**
- Shadowing senior EPs and visits to pupil referral units and specialist settings
  - Completion of small case research project
  - Administration of the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children (WISC-IV), Wechsler Individual Attainment Test (WIAT-III), British Ability Scales (BAS3), and the writing of psychological advice
- 04/2014 - 09/2016 **Assistant Educational Psychologist and Deputy Lead for Safeguarding, North East Wolverhampton Academy**
- Promoted pupil emotional well-being and educational engagement as part of a senior leadership role.
- 02/2013 - 04/2014 **Behaviour and Mental Health Support (BaMHS) Officer, Wolverhampton Child and Family Support Team**
- Provided early interventions, psychological assessments, and coordinated child protection plans for young people in need.

## QUALIFICATIONS

- 09/2019 **Doctor of Philosophy Degree, Applied Educational and Child Psychology  
University of Birmingham**
- 06/2012 **Bachelor of Science Degree, Human Psychology  
Aston University**
- 05/2014 **Postgraduate Certificate, Applied Psychology: Behaviour in Schools  
University of Wolverhampton**

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule 2nd Edition Clinicians Training – July 2021
- PERMA Model of Group Supervision – February 2020
- University of Birmingham Trainee Representative to Division of Educational Psychologists –September 2016 – September 2019
- Social Communication, Emotional Regulation, Transactional Support Model - Practitioner Training - September 2019
- REVENT Training Course – July 2017
- Emotion Coaching Practitioner Training – May 2017
- Family in Focus Key Practitioner Training – February 2014
- TRAPPED Programme, Preventing Sexual Exploitation of Teenage Girls – September 2013
- Alcohol and Young People Awareness and Prevention – June 2013
- Positive Assertive Confidence Skills Practitioners Training – June 2013
- Common Assessment Framework Practitioners Training – February 2013

## KEY SKILLS

- Statutory Processes
- Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Neurodevelopmental Needs
- Systemic Approaches
- Cognitive Behavioural Therapy
- Interpersonal Psychotherapy

## PUBLICATIONS

- The Challenges Boys with Additional Needs Face when Participating Online, Palmer, M., 2020, Association of Educational Psychologists
- Problematic Internet Use as An Antagonist to Additional Need, Palmer, M., 2019, Birmingham Educational Psychology Service
- Problematic Internet Use as An Antagonist to Additional Need and the Role of Psychologists, Palmer, M., 2018, Division of Educational and Child Psychologists
- The EP Role in Safeguarding and Child Protection, Palmer, M., 2018, University of Birmingham

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Chartered member of the British Psychological Society (CPsychol), registration number: 439516
- Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), registration number: PYL039270

## REFERENCES

- References available on request