THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY REPORT: AN EXPLORATORY STUDY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE PERSPECTIVES OF STAKEHOLDERS ACROSS THE YOUTH, CAREGIVER AND EDUCATIONAL.

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### **ABSTRACT**

There has to be more parental and student input into how special education needs are addressed, and educational psychology services need to be held more accountable, especially when it comes to showing the results of their interventions on their clients, who are kids and teens. This is according to recent policy changes and research in the field of special education. The research set out to investigate the effects of consultation in four areas: first, how teachers feel about their own influence on their students' progress; second, how parents felt about the effect of consultation on their child's progress; third, how students felt about the effect of the actions taken after educational psychologists consulted with school staff and/or parents on their own progress; and lastly, what educational psychologists thought were the most important factors for consultation to have a positive effect on students' progress. Educational psychologists collaborated with classroom instructors via Target Monitoring and Evaluation (TME) conferences to establish goals and track students' development. To find out how people felt about the consultation, researchers used semi-structured interviews. Reviewing and further developing the Service's approach to consultation is necessary to ensure that parents and pupils are more involved in determining and monitoring targets, even though EPs and those to whom they offered consultation perceive consultation as a helpful approach.

Keywords: Educational Psychology, Target Monitoring, Evaluation, Stakeholders.

### INTRODUCTION

Psychology as a topic in schools is one of the few subjects that has seen such profound changes to its basic theories, paradigms, and research methods. Since the profession's founding and thanks in part to Sir Cyril Burt, educational psychologists (EPs) have been actively updating their roles and methods of operation. Discontent and unhappiness with the status and customary practice of educational psychology have driven this

choice. There have been ongoing discussions within the profession to attempt to define the scope of Educational Psychology Services (EPS) in light of recent developments in the national environment and the way that Local Authorities (LAs) contract to offer EPS. Both Spanish and English have been used in these discussions. One of the most crucial points to take into account in discussions about the problem and the purpose of the EP is the extent of emotional application to practice. In an effort to solve this problem and guarantee that theory is used in reality, a three-year PhD programme of professional teaching was recently introduced, along with a renewed emphasis on mathematical theories and useful frameworks. This was carried out concurrently with the launch of a recently unveiled programme. Researchers have been taking into account theoretical frameworks and practice as part of their attempts to investigate the methodical and consistent application of psychological theories in practice. Many EPSs have acknowledged the consultation approach as a means of guaranteeing a comprehensive integration of theory and practice. Several services have begun to rely mostly on consultation as a means of providing services in an effort to abandon antiquated practices and create a more cohesive connection between theory and practice. This is an attempt to depart from the antiquated methods of operation. The paradigm shift towards more systemic approaches has led to an increase in the use of consultation since it is thought that it is feasible "to bring about change, not only within the consultee, but also within the system or organisation as a whole." In order to maximize an individual's or group's performance within a particular environment, consultation is a service delivery approach that requires cooperation between two professionals, such as an executive producer (EP) and a consultee (Anderson, 2019).

### **BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY**

The United Nations Informative, Scientific, and Cultural The organisation (UNESCO) developed a Framework for Action in 1994 during its global meetings on Education for Children with disabilities in Salamanca to guarantee that all children, regardless of ability, had equal access to education in their neighborhood schools. This was IE's formal introduction to the world. Most people agree that the Salamanca Statement is "the greatest transnational document that has ever come out in the field of exceptional education." Even 25 years after its publication, there are still differences in opinion on what inclusion and equality in education mean and how to attain them (Braun, 2020). A few of these issues still exist. A significant turning point in the struggle for disability equality was reached in 2006 when the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, also known as the CRPD, further recognized the access to data and communication (IE) as a fundamental human right. Some authors, on the other hand, contend that early education is not morally necessary as, if it were to be pursued in conventional schools, it may conflict with the rights of parents to choose what is best

for their children as well as the education of other children. (Hodkinson, 2019) Some hailed the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) as a revolutionary step towards redefining disability as a social problem rather than a medical one. One viewpoint is that people with disabilities are defenseless recipients of assistance and programmers meant to "cure" or "normalize" them. Nonetheless, a different perspective refutes this one and assigns accountability to "disabling barriers created by society itself". This viewpoint holds that people with disabilities are not able to do daily tasks as effectively as they normally could for themselves. Educational psychologists' thoughts on inclusive education are presented in the paragraphs that follow. Different instructional roles may be developed using these three basic concepts. Hodkinson (2019) argues that all children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) ought to get an education in the same environment as their classmates. The human rights movement and the social model of disability, both of which are represented in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, provide credence to this. Educational institutions have an obligation to eliminate barriers that prevent students from participating and learning. Suspension, expulsion, and isolation are examples of isolation-based disciplinary measures that have been used far more often for students during the last 25 years. Schools implemented zerotolerance measures in the 1990s in reaction to misbehavior by students (Batty, 2021).

# **PURPOSE OF THE STUDY**

In the subject of psychology known as educational psychology, the major objective is to gain an understanding of how individuals learn and develop within the framework of educational settings. Through the use of cognitive concepts and research, it is possible to enhance pedagogical practices, the motivation of students, and the surroundings in which students learn.

### LITERATURE REVIEW

The existing research on EPs' perspectives, mindsets, and experiences with IE for students with SEND is reviewed in this chapter. For the purpose of arriving at the "best evidence synthesis," the researcher systematically searched and reviewed the relevant international literature. In contrast to systematic literature reviews, which have historically only included rigorous quantitative research like randomized controlled trials (RCTs), this style of review attempts to provide a complete picture of the existing body of knowledge by including various study types. A systematic search and review seem to be the most appropriate method to handle the intended issue, even though systematic literature reviews provide for more generalizability of the data collected from the review. This is due to the fact that qualitative, mixed-methods, and quantitative research approaches have all been used to investigate people's viewpoints

and attitudes throughout history. A review of the relevant literature follows an explanation of the methodology used in the systematic search. A thorough theorization of the available data was the end result of a rigorous interpretative examination that critically synthesized various sorts of information. "Without absolutely ignoring the contribution that defective studies might make," this strategy makes it possible to fix any methodological problems with the covered studies. After the critical interpretive analysis, we will go over the key points in the chosen literature that are lacking or inadequately addressed. The chapter concludes with an overview of the research, an explanation of its goals and methods, and an examination of the theoretical underpinnings of the study (Bradshaw, 2018).

# **RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

- (1) How do EPs go about obtaining and communicating the opinions of young non-verbal children?
- (2) What is the optimal outcome that EPs strive to achieve in their endeavor to comprehend the viewpoints of young non-verbal children with proficiency?
- (3) How can best-practice guidelines help preschool educators (EPs) get feedback from nonverbal children?
- (4) When child-led activities, visual aids, augmentation, and alternative communication (AAC) are not considered acceptable, how can the viewpoints of young people who are nonverbal be collected?

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

To address the research questions posed at the conclusion of chapter two, this chapter lays forth the research paradigm and technique used in the current study. First, a summary of the researcher's ontological and epistemological positions is given. A section discussing the study strategy and providing an explanation of the data gathering technique comes next. The sampling strategy, the hiring procedure, and the participant profile are then covered in depth in the section on the participants. The methods and approach for data analysis are then covered, and the chapter closes with important reflections on ethical and trustworthy concerns.

## **HYPOTHESIS**

**Stakeholders:** A stakeholder is any person or organization that has an interest—financial or otherwise—in the management of a business, nonprofit, or other undertaking. Whether or whether they are official members, everyone having a financial or other

stake in the organisation is regarded as a stakeholder. A stakeholder may have a direct or indirect influence on the actions and operations of an organisation. Their support is often critical to the success of initiatives and enterprises. This criterion classifies board members, employees, investors, suppliers, customers, community organisations, and governmental organisations as stakeholders. A stakeholder economics framework should priorities an organization's attention to its stakeholders' interests. The term "stakeholder" has its roots in the horse racing industry. Horse owners pay to participate in a stake race, and that money goes towards the prize pool. The cost to participate is known as a stake, which is short for risk. A stakeholder is an individual or organisation that handles the entrance fees up until the prize money is distributed. Typically, the stakeholder's financial interest is unrelated to the race's conclusion (Dalton, 2019).

Educational Psychology: Learning and memory are major topics in educational psychology, which focuses on classrooms and other similar environments. Cognitive, emotional, and social learning all fall under this category. Topics that might be covered include education, assessment and testing, psychometrics, learning settings, classroom management, social and behavioral issues that could hinder learning, and the use of technology in the learning process. Academic institutions, school districts, testing companies, government organisations, and commercial companies all employ graduates in various capacities, including those of professor, education expert, learning analyst, and programme assessor. The goal of the Educational Psychology programme at Washington State University is to train future educational psychologists to be competent researchers, articulate and persuasive advocates for their clients' needs, adept at collaborating with colleagues from diverse backgrounds, and capable of navigating complex and uncertain professional contexts. In educational psychology, we teach students to critically evaluate and synthesis research in order to solve complex issues in education. In order to make significant theoretical and practical contributions to their chosen fields of study, these students acquire an in-depth knowledge of learning theory and methodologies. The capacity to improve educational settings (e.g., schools, universities) is one possible reward for work in these fields. Another is the ability to directly impact individuals by meeting their needs through the development of programmers, methods, and tools. A third is the ability to provide information to those who shape policy. So, we're on the lookout for bright students who can prove themselves capable of excelling in the demanding academic environment of educational psychology, enhanced sales. Small and medium-sized enterprises may benefit from product innovation (Fane, 2019).

H<sub>0</sub>: There is no significant relationship between Stakeholders and Educational Psychology.

 $H_1$ : There is a significant relationship between Stakeholders and Educational Psychology.

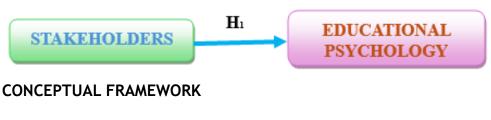
### **RESEARCH DESIGN**

According to Creswell (2018), research designs are "types of inquiry... providing specific direction for operations in a research study." This research project used a qualitative, exploratory research design in accordance with the above-mentioned research paradigm, given the goals and questions of the study. "Qualitative research is an approach for discovering and comprehending the meaning individuals or groups attach to a social or human problem" is the premise upon which this decision is founded. As such, it is a contextual and interpretive activity that aims to improve comprehension of phenomena by investigating the meaning individuals assign to it in a naturalistic manner. Thus, by recognising and evaluating patterns, qualitative approaches handle data in the form of language and representations of experiences. This qualitative study focuses on EPs' opinions of IE in the British setting. The participants' perspectives have also been used to examine cultural, socioeconomic, historical, and legal factors, since they unavoidably affect how EPs interpret their experiences and opinions about IE in their professional lives.

## **DATA ANALYSIS**

Analysis utilizing TA, "a method for systematically identifying, organizing, and offering insight into patterns of meaning (themes) across a data set," was performed on the interview data. Most of TA's qualities were thought to be a good match with the project's goals and foundation, thus it was selected as the research technique. First, the researcher was able to examine her data without being bound to any pre-set theoretical position since it was not attached to certain theoretical frameworks or techniques of data collecting. Not only that, but TA "examines the ways in which events, realities, meanings, experiences and so on are the effects of a range of discourses operating within society," which is in line with the constructionist approach that this research project has chosen. Plus, it's easy to use, even for researchers who don't have much background in qualitative research methods—like the one who worked on this project and was only familiar with quantitative techniques. Finally, it is said to be "relatively easy and guick to learn, and to do," which worked out well for the researcher since they had to work within the constraints of the PhD program's timetable while planning their study. Perspectives on inclusive education held by educational psychologists There are a few possible drawbacks to TA as well. Because finding patterns in the data is the main goal, it precludes doing things like analyzing the consistency or lack thereof in the participants' accounts. Consequently, particularly when working with massive datasets, the voices of certain individuals may be obscured.

Codes are defined as "the most basic segment, or element, of the raw data or information that can be analysed in a meaningful way regarding the phenomenon" and are an operational level input to the TA recursive process, as described in the groundbreaking work of Braun and Clarke. This leads us to group them into related topics.



### RESULT

# Methods for collecting opinions and enabling involvement

Observation: The most common method for getting comments from young children who couldn't speak for themselves was observation. The kids were observed as they went about their regular lives, which was a commonality throughout all the observational studies. None of the articles that were located asked participants to go to a separate location just for the observation, which is in line with this ethnographic method. It is important to note that although Payler, Georgeson and Wong, Greathead et al., and Simmons and Watson all attempted to record the young person at critical times that happened spontaneously, none of the research specifically planned to do so. Numerous observations are often included in research reports as well. Juhl, Simmons, and Watson investigated young people in two different settings. Research has been known to spend a significant amount of time observing the young people whose views were sought. For example, Cocks, Simmons, and Watson used different site visits to collect data. Payler, Georgeson, and Wong (2016) collected data within a setting over the course of eight days.

Another thing that sets the chosen studies apart is the level of adolescent hands-on engagement that the researchers targeted. Researchers from two of the studies were delighted to converse with the young people under observation, take part in group activities, and spend time getting to know them. This was used to a lesser extent even by Greathead et al., who recorded engaging in activities while monitoring a youth's daily activities.

The Crucial Adult Role: Prynallt-Jones, Carey, and Doherty (2018), Feiler and Watson, and Franklin and Goff (2019) have all emphasized the significance of individuals who knew the child. Helping adults to understand the child's point of view and to promote youth involvement via nonverbal means. Studies that aimed to comprehend the

viewpoints of non-verbal adolescents and case study research (Juhl, 2019) depended on people who had personal experience with the young. A large amount of study depended on the cooperation of important adults to help interpret the data gathered via direct observation and interaction. Numerous portrayals of this information triangulation process indicate that it is an active procedure including asking significant adults for help while gathering their perspectives; it is seen as a means of jointly developing an understanding or meaning.

Considering perspectives: Different conceptualizations of non-verbal kids' viewpoints were found in the investigation. Data that came from an understanding that was articulated in a superior work that served as the main focus of the review. According to Simmons and Watson, research that attempts to explain the encounters of young people who are nonverbal often adopts an inadequacy-based viewpoint. This implies that either the adults doing the study lack the requisite information, resources, or skills, or the young people involved are immature and unable to express their ideas. When it comes to obtaining the opinions of non-verbal adolescents, the literature emphasized the need of staff training, educating young people about communication, and providing extra tools (Kaushik, 2019).

Study	Conceptualisation of views	Theoretical Considerations
Cocks, 2008	Uses a participatory approach which seeks to develop an understanding of young people's perspective over time and through shared experience.	Cites Mandell (1991, 436) "mutual understanding is a social product, a joint creation which emerges in and through the defining of interactions of selves (adult researchers) and others (children) around social objects".
Feiler and Watson 2011	a, Recognises that the development of an understanding of another person's perspective happens over time and through a relationship. Research also places an emphasis on developing communication skills of young people and staff training.	Conceptualisation of views inferred from research outcomes as theoretical considerations not explicitly explored within the research.
Franklin and Goff, 2019	Recognises the role of key adult developing attuned relationship overtime, which allows for understanding to be shared and key adult to advocate for young person.	Conceptualisation of views inferred from research outcomes as theoretical considerations not explicitly explored within the research.
Greathead et al., 2019	Use of checklists and structured observations could be considered as framing views as a deficit within individuals. Emphasis placed on measurement of missed communication opportunities is suggestive of deficit model. Does acknowledge the role of key adults who have shared experiences with a young person.	Conceptualisation of views inferred from research outcomes as theoretical considerations not explicitly explored within the research.
Juhl, 2019	Reports that through a shared life anchored in social practice structures, people have the possibility to engage in the shared exploration of each other's subjective reasons for action.	Understanding of subjectivity is the focus of the article and explicitly linked to understanding of views/perspective.  Argues that there is no way to know what the views or perspectives of a person are. Promotes trying to understand the child in the world (not the child's inner world).
Maconochie and McNeill, 2010	event, and this requires organisations to change in attitude, procedures, and styles of working.	States that researchers 'gave up the pretence to be able to uncover any objective understanding of 'children's views' in favour of understanding children's perspectives as embodied and produced within social interactions' (Maconochie & McNeill, 2010, 4).
Payler et al., 2016	Proposes that a relationally responsive understanding develops between the child and key adults. Also suggests that children's bodily and vocal communication needs to be attended to as they are already sharing their feelings interests and wishes.	Acknowledges that making visible children's contributions and perspectives allows for a more contingent approach to implementing interprofessional practice strategies. Practitioners should act as the advocates and co-constructors with young children, mediating their participation, rather than 'doing unto'.
Prynallt-Jones et al., 2018	Concludes that time, training and resources are barriers to good practice which frames views within individual deficits. However, time is considered important as it allows the building a relationship.	Conceptualisation of views inferred from research outcomes as theoretical considerations not explicitly explored within the research.
Simmons and Watson, 2015	States that an understanding of another person's perspective develops over time through interactions, shared experience, and the building of a relationship.	Understanding of views explicitly explored and explained throughout article. Young person's feelings and responses can change depending on environment and situation, leading to an interpretivist approach being applied throughout.

The perspective of a youth who does not speak out is "expressed in action towards the physical and social worlds, and hence is contingent upon the relationships people develop over time and across cont. exits," according to Simmons and Watson, who offered a different approach to thinking about youth perspectives. Much of the published work has been an effort to abandon the deficit model in favors of an interactionist one when analyzing viewpoints. Shotter thinks that consistent dialogue and engagement lead to a more mutual understanding of viewpoints. This comprehension was echoed in other investigations and was recognized as having a direct impact on the studies included in the review (Juhl 2019).

### DISCUSSION

The goal of this study was to find out about the career goals of EPs, their early experiences listening to nonverbal children's viewpoints, and the things that might support them in realising those goals. The themes and suggestions developed as part of this approach represent the notion that invisible children may be assisted in influencing decisions that impact them. The results of this research support the notion that

including nonverbal children's perspectives into all casework via observation, interaction, and consultation is both possible and necessary. It might be argued that looking at things from the perspective of another person is just like looking at things from the perspective of a toddler. The author of this research feels that a simplistic interpretation of the term vision has impeded non-verbal children's participation and involvement. The article's spirit seems to be at odds with the way the term is now employed. As was the case in this research, practitioners may want to think about how their personal perception of "views" affects their capacity to encourage engagement (Richards, 2020).

## **CONCLUSION**

In an effort to address the gaps in the existing literature, this study delves deeply into the perspectives of 12 educational professionals (EPs) in the UK about the educational inclusion of children and youth with special educational needs (SEND). In particular, three research questions (RQs) pertaining to EPs' perspectives on inclusion in education (IE), inclusion in their daily work, and their future involvement in supporting inclusive practices served as the study's compass. The study used a qualitative technique based on semi structured interviews and TA, which was supported by social constructionist and relativist research principles and a commitment to social justice. The interviews provided detailed information on the IE-EP role's difficulties. Perspectives on inclusive education held by educational psychologists. The results demonstrated a robust EP dedication to inclusion, supported by social justice, children's rights, and appreciating diversity, even while there was a wide variety of opinions on inclusion models and terminology, reflecting the challenges of inclusion and SEND in the UK. The majority of EP practice, according to the participants, is based on inclusion, both at the individual and systemic levels. There are a number of obstacles to inclusiveness, and the EP job is one of them. When taken with the participants expressed emotions, they pointed to broader professional development areas, such as the feeling of agency and self-efficacy of EPs and their standing. Much discussion in the literature over the past few decades has centered on the idea that placement issues reflect the continuous shift from the expert to the facilitator role. There were also some positive aspects of EP practice that promoted inclusiveness, suggesting that EPs are crucial in standing up for CYP and strengthening the systems in their communities. Among them, there have been advancements in the fields of professional identity for EPs and in the practice of EPs at the individual and systemic levels. Finally, these results appear to suggest that educational psychologists (EPs) should consider "promoting inclusion as a way to define the role of the educational psychologist in the new millennium" as a means to promote the educational inclusion of students with special educational needs and disabilities

(2021). This study is being conducted with the expectation that it may aid in this quest (Tesfaye, 2019).

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