

20 May 2021

JS/21/83

Payment and Placement of Educational Psychologists on the Pay Scale

Dear Colleague

This letter of advice from the Joint Secretaries replaces and updates the provisions contained within the previous letter on this matter outlined in JS/19/74 dated 4 April 2019.

Currently, for salary purposes, probationer educational psychologists are placed on Point 0 of the Educational Psychologists Scale. On successful completion of their probation year, and full registration by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), an educational psychologist should be moved to Point 1 of the Scale and should receive backdated payment, for the difference in salary between Point 0 and Point 1, to the date on which they assume the full range of duties for the post.

Arising from the new arrangements for training educational psychologists, the **post** of probationer educational psychologist will no longer exist after **1 September 2022**. After this time, an educational psychologist should be placed on Point 1 of the salary scale. Educational psychologists will be employed on the basis that they have completed a three-year training programme and have full registration by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

Existing probationer educational psychologists should continue to work towards the completion of their probationary period by 1 September 2021 in accordance with the advice contained in the previous letter from the Joint Secretaries. However, where there are extenuating circumstances, including, for example, personal, health, or operational reasons, councils can extend the probationary period following discussion with the probationer educational psychologist.

Any extension would not run beyond 1 September 2022.

All probationers have until that time to complete their probationary period and to obtain full registration by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

A revised SNCT Circular and accompanying handbook changes will be issued at that time.

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Yours sincerely

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Joint Secretaries

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LNCT Joint Secretaries