



## The Analysis of Additional Needs (AANT): Online EP analysis and consultation process

Find the full study here: [doi.org/10.53841/bps](https://doi.org/10.53841/bps)



### Aims/Background context



(why did we do it)

This exploratory research aimed to explore the views of education setting staff who have undertaken an Analysis of Additional Needs Screening Tool (AANT) online assessment and consultation with an Educational Psychologist (EP). Staff complete the online AANT form, comprising a range of solution-oriented questions about the child or young person's strengths and difficulties. This is followed by a consultation with an EP.

The research questions centred around the importance of hearing the experiences of education staff as consultees within the AANT process, and how their views might inform further development of the AANT consultation process.

### Design/Methods



(what did we do)

This study had two phases.

- 1) Three in-person semi-structured interviews with staff who had taken part in AANTs.
- 2) 46 education staff participated in a semi-structured telephone conversation with a member of the Local Authority (LA) Psychology & Therapeutic Services (P&TS). The EP Service sits within the P&TS.

### Results/Discussion/Impact



(what does this mean for  
children & families in Suffolk)

The findings identified themes of how education setting staff engage with and feel about the AANT, the AANT process and AANT outcomes. Broad indicators from this exploratory research are that staff found the AANT process useful and effective. The findings informed further development work in the EP Service.

Analysis of the findings helped the LA EP Service to develop the AANT online digital platform which is now a core part of our Graduated Response. It enables effective remote consultation with education setting staff alongside other forms of support. The level of enthusiastic uptake and positive feedback from educational settings for all ages has exceeded all expectation. The findings extend the evidence base around the use of digital assessment methods and consultation.

Summary provided by Dr Claire Darwin (PEP) & Dr Imogen Howarth (DPEP), July 2024.