

To enhance the mental health and educational competence of all children.



For More Information, visit our website at www.earlywood.org

The following website also provides useful information:

www.nasponline.org

Mission:

Supporting the "I" in IEP

Vision:

All students with disabilities will reach their potential for independence as they strive to successfully complete high school and transition into adult life.





School Psychologist

www.earlywood.org



School Psychology

School psychologists have specialized training in both psychology and education. They use their training and skills to team with parents, and other educational professionals to ensure that every child learns in a safe, healthy and supportive environment. School psychologists understand school systems, effective teaching, and successful learning. Today's children face more challenges than ever before. School psychologists can provide solutions for tomorrow's problems through thoughtful and positive interventions today. The training requirements to become a school psychologist are a minimum of 60 graduate semester hours including a year-long internship. Virtually all school psychologists have a Specialist Degree in education, and some have Doctorates. Their training emphasizes preparation in mental health, child development, school organization, learning, behavior and motivation. To work as a school psychologist, one must be certified and/or licensed by the state in which services are provided.



Services

School psychologists tailor their services to the particular needs of each child and each situation. Approaches that our psychologists use may include (but are not limited to the following):

Consultation/Prevention

- Provide alternative/effective strategies to teachers, parents, and administrators about challenges in learning and behavior
- help others understand child development and how it affects learning and behavior
- strengthen working relationships between educators, parents and community services
- collaborate with school and community based personnel to provide a comprehensive model of school-linked services
- evaluate the effectiveness of academic programs, behavior management systems, and other services
- generate new knowledge about learning and behavior
- contribute to planning and evaluating school-wide reform and restructuring

Assessment

School Psychologists use a wide variety of techniques of information sources to evaluate/identify potential learning difficulties including:

- academic skills
- learning aptitudes
- personality and emotional development
- social skills
- learning environments and school climate
- eligibility for special education
- progress monitoring data

Intervention

- work directly with children and families
- help solve conflicts and problems in learning and adjustment
- facilitate psychological counseling for children and families
- provide social skills training, behavior management, and other strategies
- help families and schools deal with crises, such as separation and loss
- design programs for children at risk for failure
- provide parents and teachers with the skills to cope with disruptive behavior
- help foster tolerance, understanding, and appreciation of diversity in the school community
- develop school-wide initiatives to make schools safer and more effective