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School Psychology

Psychological counselling for school management, teachers, parents and students



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LEGAL BASIS AND METHODS

As civil servants affiliated with the local education authorities school psychologists fulfil a wide range of duties. According to § 94 (4) Hessisches Schulgesetz, the legal basis for school psychologists' responsibilities in Hesse, their main tasks are the following:

- ☆ Advising schools / school management on preventive or system-related measures and programmes
- ☆ Offering psychological counselling for school management, teachers, parents and students

Specific guidelines describe school psychologists' work and responsibilities in more detail.

If required, school psychologists collaborate with other institutions and organizations, for example child and youth welfare offices, advisory centres, the police, (mental) health facilities, psychiatrists and psychotherapists.

Responsibilities

Counselling for teachers and school management – school psychologist ...

- ☆ facilitate ways of dealing with difficult groups of students / school classes.
- ☆ offer supervision and coaching, implement peer consulting for groups of teachers / the teaching staff.
- ☆ meet with parents and / or teachers to discuss learning, behavioral, familial and social issues.
- ☆ implement stress-reduction techniques.

Counselling for teachers, parents and students – school psychologists ...

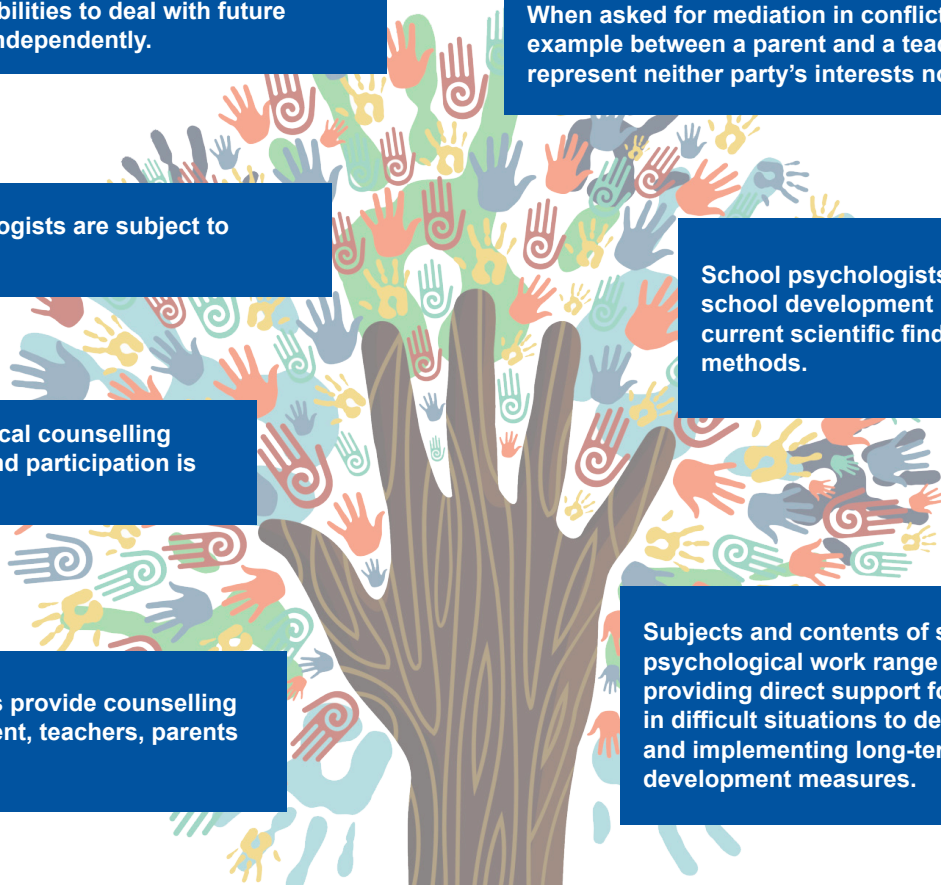
- ☆ help students process their problems, e.g. increase academic performance, deal with anxiety and other mental health issues, address behavioural problems and absenteeism.
- ☆ plan goals and action together with students for a successful educational career.
- ☆ act as mediators in conflicts.

System-related counselling – school psychologists ...

- ☆ support processes of change, e.g. team development, implementation of prevention programmes or protection concepts.
- ☆ collaborate with the school's network of institutions and organizations as well as with the school's multi-professional educational staff.
- ☆ provide crisis intervention and threat management.
- ☆ offer conflict moderation / mediation.
- ☆ support teachers' in-service training, training for social workers and the school management. in the field of psychological knowledge and recent scientific findings.

Regional and supraregional responsibilities of school psychologists:

- ☆ Crisis intervention and threat management
- ☆ Prevention of addiction
- ☆ Prevention of violence
- ☆ Specific Learning Disability (SLD)
- ☆ Intellectual giftedness
- ☆ Migration and counselling for refugees
- ☆ Work field "School & Health"



School psychological counselling aims to support clients in finding their own appropriate solutions. Ideally, school psychological counselling facilitates the clients' capabilities to deal with future challenges independently.

School psychologists take neutral positions. When asked for mediation in conflicts, for example between a parent and a teacher, they represent neither party's interests nor goals.

School psychologists are subject to confidentiality.

School psychological counselling is free of charge and participation is voluntary.

School psychologists address school development based on current scientific findings and methods.

School psychologists provide counselling for school management, teachers, parents and students.

Subjects and contents of school psychological work range from providing direct support for students in difficult situations to developing and implementing long-term school development measures.