



Family Futures

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Helping Children
to Access Education

At Family Futures, we aim to support parents and teachers in meeting the emotional needs of the children, enabling each child to begin to fulfil his or her educational potential.

Children who have experienced loss or trauma in their early lives often find the school situation intimidating, and sometimes frightening.

Emotionally, they may not be as mature as their peers. Maternal deprivation, abuse and neglect can affect the development of executive functioning skills. These are the skills that control behaviour inhibition, self-organisation, initiation, planning, shift, working-memory and self-evaluation.

Furthermore, an acute fear of a repetition of the trauma experienced in their early years leads to a desperate need to control their environment . This need for control, combined with developmental difficulties, can cause the children, their peers and teachers great difficulties.

Our services can include

- Assessments of the child's executive functioning skills and emotional difficulties, psychometric testing
- An initial observation of the child within the school setting
- A meeting with relevant members of the school staff

- Strategies and resources to address the child's specific executive functioning difficulties, focusing on the teacher's immediate concerns
- Further school visits to monitor progress and to address continuing concerns
- An integrated home/school learning and behavioural strategies programme
- Attendance at school meetings as necessary
- On-going telephone and e-mail support for teachers and parents
- Support for parents who choose home-tuition
- Support for families where the child's behaviour has led to exclusion
- Support for the school in planning the re-integration of the child after exclusion

For more information contact the education specialist at Family Futures

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