

# Exploring School Staff Views on the Use of Emotion Coaching in Special Schools that support Children and Young People with Learning Difficulties.

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## Aims of the research

- This research hopes to investigate staff views on the use of Emotion Coaching in special schools that support children with learning difficulties.
- This hopes to add to the evidence-base of how the wellbeing of CYP with learning difficulties can be supported through relational, whole-school approaches.
- Research has previously explored how Emotion Coaching is used in SEMH settings. This research hopes to add to that to explore how it is used and adapted in other special needs contexts.
- This hopes to provide wider contextual understanding of EC use and aims to inform support recommendations.

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## Who can participate?

- All school staff e.g., Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Senior Leadership and Lunchtime Support Assistants who work in special needs schools that support children with learning difficulties.
- Special schools can be complex needs schools or learning difficulty specific, so long as they have a focus on supporting CYP with learning difficulties e.g., not SEMH or ASD focused settings.
- Staff must have received training on and use Emotion Coaching approaches in their work with children and young people.
- School staff must be aged 16 plus to participate.

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## What will the research will involve?

- Staff will be invited to complete an online interview with me via Microsoft Teams.
- Interviews will take no longer that 1 hour.
- Questions will focus on how Emotion Coaching is used and adapted in the setting and barriers and facilitators to its use.

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## Potential contribution to the research base

- Adding to our understanding of how Emotion Coaching is used in a range of settings e.g., special needs.
- Providing a greater understanding of how the approach can be used in schools specifically to support CYP with learning difficulties.
- Guiding potential recommendations to schools and similar special needs settings.

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## A request for support

- I would like to recruit some more participants. I will share my research poster with the necessary information.
- If you are special school staff (for learning difficulties) and would like to participate, please email me at [h.gray2@uea.ac.uk](mailto:h.gray2@uea.ac.uk) to express your interest.
- If you know of a school who may be interested in participating, please share my poster with their **Headteacher** (they are my recruitment gatekeepers) and ask them to contact me at [h.gray2@uea.ac.uk](mailto:h.gray2@uea.ac.uk)


**Request for School Staff Participants**

Exploring School Staff Views on the Use of Emotion Coaching in Special Needs Schools for Children with Learning Difficulties.

My name is Hannah Gray I am a Trainee Educational Psychologist at the University of East Anglia. As part of a doctoral research project, I am looking to explore the views of school staff on the use of Emotion Coaching (Gottman et al., 1997) in special schools for children with learning difficulties.

About This Research	This research aims to understand how Emotion Coaching approaches are used and experienced in special school settings for children with learning difficulties. This research aims to support Emotion Coaching use in these settings and improve Educational Psychologist advice and training to meet the needs of special schools and the children and young people who attend them.
What does this study involve?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You will be invited to complete an online or in-person interview (at the school) with the researcher.</li> <li>Interviews will take no longer than 1 hour.</li> <li>You will be asked questions about your experiences of using Emotion Coaching in special needs schools for children with learning difficulties. This could include questions about perceived barriers and facilitators to its use and recommendations for how the approach can be adapted to meet pupil/setting needs.</li> </ul>
Can I participate?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I am looking to recruit school staff e.g., Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Senior Leadership and Lunchtime Support Assistants who work in special needs schools for children with learning difficulties.</li> <li>Staff must have received training on and use Emotion Coaching approaches in their work with children and young people.</li> <li>If you know me professionally or personally please be aware that participation is entirely voluntary. If you choose not to participate this will not affect our relationship.</li> <li>School staff must be aged 18 plus to participate</li> </ul>
Project Lead and Contact Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you would like to participate or have any questions, please contact the researcher: Hannah Gray, Trainee Educational Psychologist via email <a href="mailto:H.Gray2@uea.ac.uk">H.Gray2@uea.ac.uk</a> or by following the QR code link <a href="https://forms.office.com/https://forms.office.com/https://forms.office.com/https://forms.office.com/https://forms.office.com/">https://forms.office.com/https://forms.office.com/https://forms.office.com/https://forms.office.com/</a></li> </ul> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;">  </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervisor: Ryan Cullen <a href="mailto:ryan.cullen@uea.ac.uk">ryan.cullen@uea.ac.uk</a></li> </ul>
Ethical Review Committee/ Application Number	ETH2324-1540

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Thank you.  
Please let me know if you have any  
questions or you can email me at  
[H.gray2@uea.ac.uk](mailto:H.gray2@uea.ac.uk)