

Dr Nicola "Nicki" Baker

Educational Psychologist

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What people admire about me

I'm sincere and honest – I do not pretend to be something I am not

I'm open minded, I will listen and try my best to understand other people and their opinions

I'm caring and empathetic

I'm funny and witty

I am a people person, I love to talk and be surrounded by people

I am a quick learner and always try my best

I'm hardworking and determined

About me

I've loved psychology since my A-levels in 2011/12

I studied a psychology undergraduate and a PGCE, both at the University of Nottingham

I have a Doctorate in Educational Psychology
Doctorate from the University of East Anglia

I've worked as a KS2 teacher for many years, as well as in a children's residential care home and in holiday Kid's clubs abroad

I like sports, I am in the Ipswich Raven's rounders club and Ipswich Fours trampoline club

I LOVE travelling and I've been to over 50 countries

I LOVE animals, I have 2 cats and 2 dogs. My dog Nola (in the picture) is a qualified school therapy dog and enjoyed working with me for 2 years

How I work

I put a strong emphasis on building a trusting relationship with the child or young person

I believe it is important to have good communication with all aspects of the child's life, including the child themselves, the school and their parents/carers.

I think it is important to be collaborative, learn from other colleagues and support other colleagues

I like to use positive psychology and a strengths-based, solution focused approach

I understand each child is different and there is no one size fits all approach

I am interested in youth offending and Looked After Children

My thesis research explored the experiences of young people with Down syndrome. I am passionate in making sure everyone's voice is heard regardless of differences or disabilities

I enjoy supporting others and am interested in developing supervision skills

How best to support me

Clear feedback – this includes constructive criticism but also praise when it is needed. I thrive from praise and I feel as adults, we often don't get it enough

Time management – sometimes I work until really late or through my free time. It is helpful if someone reminds me that it is ok to take a break

Clear goals – if there is something you want me to do, I always want to do it the best that I can. So make it clear what you want me to do