



# Educational Psychology Service

Information for Parents and Carers

Working with schools, educational settings, parents and carers to support children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities

[www.fis.cityoflondon.gov.uk/send-local-offer](http://www.fis.cityoflondon.gov.uk/send-local-offer)

## Who are Educational Psychologists?

Educational Psychologists (EPs):

- have a first degree in Psychology and a further professional qualification in Educational Psychology.
- are registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).
- have experience of working with children and young people (CYP).
- have skills and qualifications in the use of psychological and educational assessment techniques.
- work in educational settings, with other professionals, to help children with their learning and emotional well-being.

### Who do City of London (COL) Educational Psychologists work with?

CYP between the ages of 0-25 who live in the COL;

- when a request for an Education, Health and Care (EHC) needs assessment has been agreed; they provide the psychological advice for this assessment.
- they may attend annual reviews of CYP with Education, Health and Care plans (EHCPs) and become further involved if concerns are expressed about their Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) not being met.
- if a change of provision is considered, the EP may visit schools in other local authorities to see COL CYP with EHCPs.
- who attend The Aldgate School when requested by the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCo). The SENDCo supports pupils in the school who have SEND. If you are a parent and have concerns about your child's SEND please raise these with your school SENDCo.
- who attend Early Years settings in the COL, even if the child is resident in another Local Authority, when referral is requested by the COL Early Years Team.

## What do Educational Psychologists do?

EPs will gain consent of the child/young person (usually from 16 years) and/or their parents/carers to work with them. They usually work in schools and other settings with parents/carers and other professionals involved to find more effective ways of supporting the learning and development of the CYP.

EPs collect information about the CYP and their contexts, including school and home. This is so they can be clear about the concerns raised. They then carry out some or all of the following:

- Reading previous reports about the child/young person.
- Discussions with parents and carers to hear their views.
- Observations of the CYP in class and other places, such as the playground.
- Talking and working with the CYP. This may include standardised assessments, e.g. tests which look at thinking skills and/or memory.
- Making recommendations to those involved with the CYP about ideas and strategies to try. These should be reviewed after a period of time to see if they have worked.
- Ideas and recommendations are included in a report which is shared with the parents/carers and professionals, such as speech and language therapists and/or social care involved with the CYP. If there is anything that you do not understand or are not happy with, please discuss these with the EP.
- Manage information and data concerning the CYP with whom they work, according to the COL data protection requirements: Data Protection Policy - City of London.



## How do I contact the service?

If your child has an EHCP from the City of London the service can be contacted via email:

**[EEYservice@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:EEYservice@cityoflondon.gov.uk)**

For children who attend The Aldgate School or a COL Early Years setting this should initially be done via the CYP's teacher or the SENDCO.

For CYP on SEND support, attending schools outside COL, please contact the school SENDCO. EP support is provided by the area where the school is located.

For more information on what is available in the local area, please visit:

**[www.fis.cityoflondon.gov.uk/send-local-offer](http://www.fis.cityoflondon.gov.uk/send-local-offer)**