



# 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

## **Who are Educational Psychologists?**

Educational Psychologists (EPs) are applied psychologists.

They have a first degree in Psychology, experience of working with children and young people (CYP), and a further professional qualification in Educational Psychology. They have skills and qualifications in the use of a range of psychological and educational assessment techniques, as well as different ways of helping CYP. They routinely work in schools and other settings, with other professionals including teachers, to help children with their learning and emotional well-being.

Educational Psychologists (EPs) are registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

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## **What do Educational Psychologists do?**

Educational Psychologists will always gain consent of the child/young person (usually from 16 years) and/or their parents in order 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.

Educational Psychologists 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. Educational Psychologists always offer parents of children with whom they work an opportunity to discuss this work with them. A time will be made at school to see if your child is making progress.

- 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. These ideas and recommendations may be included in the CYP's individual education plan or written in a separate report or visit summary. These are shared with the parents/carers and professionals involved with the CYP. If there is anything in the report that you do not understand or are not happy with, please contact the EP or the EP service.
- Manage information and data concerning the CYP with whom they work according to the COL data protection requirements:  
[Data Protection Policy](#) - City of London.

## **Who do Educational Psychologists work with?**

City of London (COL) EPs work with CYP between the ages of 0-25:

- who live in the COL when a request for an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) needs assessment has been agreed by the COL's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) panel. They provide the psychological advice for this assessment.
- when requested by the COL SEND team, they may attend annual reviews of CYP with EHCPs and become further involved if concerns are expressed about their SEND not being met. If a change of provision is considered, the EP may visit schools in other local authorities to see COL pupils or students with COL 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 special educational needs (SENs). These needs may include social and emotional, learning and /or language difficulties. 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, when referral is requested by the COL Early Years Team. This team works with children in these settings when a referral is made by their SENDCo.
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### **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 more information on what is available in the local area, please visit:

[\*\*City of London SEND Local Offer\*\*](#)