

Support to Schools

Educational Psychology Service

OVERVIEW

The educational psychology service aims to promote the positive development of children, young people, families, schools and organisations through the effective application of psychology. This will include support for learning, social and behavioural difficulties and the promotion of emotional health and well-being. This is achieved by empowering other professionals, parents and carers and through direct intervention.

The local authority will continue to commission a core educational psychology service, which includes a preventative (school action plus) service for schools and the preparation of psychological reports contributing to the statutory assessment process. Educational psychology services are offered free at the point of contact to schools through time allocation that is based on the size of the school.

The traded element of the service will give schools the opportunity to purchase additional educational psychology time to add to that already provided as core delivery through school visits.

WHAT THE SERVICE PROVIDES

The **core** service offers:

- school visits;
- cluster consultation through TAPPAS;
- cluster drop-ins;
- ELSA supervision;
- solution focused consultation with staff;
- telephone consultation;
- support for critical incidents;
- statutory assessments and statutory reviews .

All schools have a named link educational psychologist and are allocated a core number of visits per year based on the size of the school and any additional specialist provision.

Traded service delivery (which is additional to purchase) offers:

- additional school visits;
- support for strategic planning, provision;
- management and capacity building;
- work with parents and families including 'drop in sessions' and training;

- identifying pupil needs and intervention;
- supporting the school and staff to meet pupils needs;
- access arrangements for secondary school pupils;
- research and evaluation projects;
- therapeutic interventions;
- training, including staff development;
- bespoke packages developed to match the needs of individual schools.

BENEFITS TO YOUR SCHOOL

The services which are provided will build on good professional relationships and expert knowledge of your school. All educational psychologists are registered with the Health and Care Professionals Council (HCPC) and work to the British Psychological Society professional standards. All the work completed by educational psychology assistants and Doctorate trainee educational psychologists are supervised by qualified educational psychologists.

- schools can plan for anticipated demand for service;
- professionals from the educational psychology service to be available for a greater variety of work that can better match the particular needs of the school;
- opportunity to work with the educational psychology service at a number of levels including strategic and group level;
- the educational psychology service work able to focus on raising the achievement of all pupils, including Children Looked After (CLA) and vulnerable groups;
- increased availability of educational psychologist;
- a more flexible response to school's particular needs;
- schools able to develop an increased understanding of broader range of educational psychology work;
- increased opportunities for therapeutic work;
- more efficient use of time;
- schools able to request specific continuous professional development (CPD) support;
- providing services to other organisations that need psychological support.

COSTS

The cost per session for the traded services input from an educational psychologist will be £250 per session (up to 3 hours visit to school). This includes administration costs, for example, report write up, preparation of materials etc. The cost of an educational psychologist's time per hour will be £100. Discounted rates can be negotiated when purchasing multiple sessions. The cost per hour will be £70.

WHO TO CONTACT

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