

Psychology and Advisory Support Team



Information for parents and carers about
Educational Psychologists (EPs)

Preparing for an EP visit

Some parents ask what they should tell their child about the EP's visit. You could tell them what an EP is and what an EP does. This leaflet may help you.

Some children prefer to know about changes in routine in advance and will want to ask you questions about the visit. Other children may prefer not to know in advance as they might feel self-conscious. You know your child best and can decide how much or how little to tell them.

What is an EP?

An Educational Psychologist is someone who uses their knowledge of how children play, learn, think, feel, behave and get on with others to make things better for them at school and at home.

Why is the EP seeing my child?

An EP is usually asked to see a child when there are concerns at preschool or school. These concerns might be about:

- Academic progress and learning
- Speaking and listening
- Getting on with others
- Managing their feelings and behaviour
- Physical, sensory or health difficulties

What will happen?

Usually the EP will try to build up an all-round picture of your child's strengths and difficulties. The way they do this will depend on your child's age and needs. They might do this by:

- Watching the child in class or at break time
- Meeting with the child to talk to them about what they like and dislike doing at school and at home
- Carrying out some activities and tests with your child
- Looking at examples of their work
- Talking to school staff
- Talking to parents and carers
- Talking to other professionals who know your child, for example a Speech and Language Therapist or a Paediatrician

Sometimes the EP may want to meet you and your child at home too.

Parents are not usually present during classroom observations and one to one assessments, as we find that children may react differently with them there. If you would like to be present during the assessment, please get in touch with the EP.

How will parents be involved?

The EP will not see your child unless you have agreed to this in advance. This is usually done by signing a consent form at school.

The EP will usually want to see you as part of their assessment. This is an important chance for you to share your views and concerns and to work towards making things better for your child.

What happens next?

The EP will usually write a report and send a copy to you and your child's school. If the EP has written anything that you don't understand or want to ask more about you should get in touch with them.

Sometimes the EP may visit your child again.

How can I find out more?



You can call: 0300 300 8000



You can visit: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk



You can write to: Psychology and Advisory Support Team, Watling House, High Street North, Dunstable LU6 1LF