



Easy Read: A Guide for Children and Young People

# **The Educational Psychology Service**

Supporting children and young people (Aged 0-19)



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In this Easy Read document, difficult words are in **bold**.

We explain what these words mean in the sentence after they have been used.



Some words are blue and underlined. These are links that will go to a website or page which has more information.



# Introduction

This document is about the Education Authority's **Educational Psychology Service**.

The Education Psychology Service helps schools, children and young people and their families, both at home and in the classroom.

Educational Psychologists work with children and young people who have difficulties in school that affect:

- Learning
- Behaviour
- Emotional Wellbeing
- Social Skills
- Language & Communication

Some children or young people can also have a medical diagnosis, such as Autism or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and may need support in school.



# What does the Educational Psychology (EPS) Service do?

The Educational Psychology Service works with children and young people.



**Educational Psychologists (EP)** have special training in how children and young people develop and how this may impact on learning and family life.



We work closely with:

- Schools
- Parents/carers
- Other professionals, for example, doctors, social workers, and other health professionals.



We support children and young people with Special Educational Needs through

- meetings with schools
- observing children
- assessments
- interventions

We can give  
parents, carers  
and school staff:



- Information.



- Advice.



- Training.



# How to access the EPS



All schools have a named Educational Psychologist who will have regular meetings with them. These are called **consultations**.



If your parents are worried about you they should talk to your teacher, GP, or Health Visitor in the first instance.



If the school shares your parents' concerns that progress is not being made, they will put support in place and review this regularly.



If you continue to have difficulties the school may request a consultation with us.

# Pre-school children



A child may be under the care of a **paediatrician** because of concerns about their development and their ability to manage in school.



A paediatrician is a doctor that specialises in the treatment of children.

They may ask for parents' permission to contact us.



A child may be currently attending a nursery, playgroup, or other pre-school setting.

If there are concerns about their development, staff may ask for parents' permission to contact us.



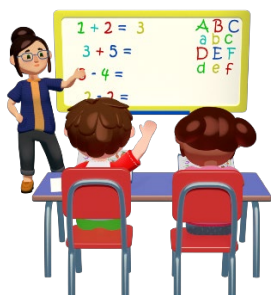
# School aged children and young people



At school, if you are on the Special Educational Needs Register and the **Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo)** is concerned about your progress, they may request involvement from us.



The SENCo is the teacher in school who is responsible for arranging support for children with special educational needs.



If you are referred to our service, there are different types of involvement which may take place:

- Consultation
- Assessment
- **Intervention** - where a psychologist will work directly with you.
- Training for school staff/ parents

# What happens next?

For many children with SEN, your specific needs can be met within your school.



Support can often be provided **with or without** a statement of Special Educational Needs being required.



Sometimes a child will have **complex** needs that are likely to be long term and may require specialist support.

In this case, we will discuss with your parents the need for a request for **statutory assessment**.



Your parent's **views** and **permission** will be sought at every stage of the process.

# For more information

You can look at our website:



[Educational Psychology Service](#)

If you or your parents need more information, please contact us by:



Office	Telephone Number	Email Address
Ballymena	028 2566 1284	<a href="mailto:Psychology.Ballymena@eani.org.uk">Psychology.Ballymena@eani.org.uk</a>
Belfast	028 9056 4254	<a href="mailto:Psychology.Belfast@eani.org.uk">Psychology.Belfast@eani.org.uk</a>
Coleraine	028 7032 8462	<a href="mailto:Psychology.Coleraine@eani.org.uk">Psychology.Coleraine@eani.org.uk</a>
Derry / Londonderry	028 7186 4780	<a href="mailto:Psychology.Maydown@eani.org.uk">Psychology.Maydown@eani.org.uk</a>
Dundonald	028 9056 6914	<a href="mailto:Psychology.Dundonald@eani.org.uk">Psychology.Dundonald@eani.org.uk</a>
Dungannon	028 8241 1592	<a href="mailto:Psychology.Dungannon@eani.org.uk">Psychology.Dungannon@eani.org.uk</a>
Enniskillen	028 6634 3900	<a href="mailto:Psychology.Enniskillen@eani.org.uk">Psychology.Enniskillen@eani.org.uk</a>
Newry	028 3026 6443	<a href="mailto:Psychology.Newry@eani.org.uk">Psychology.Newry@eani.org.uk</a>
Omagh	028 8241 1394	<a href="mailto:Psychology.Omagh@eani.org.uk">Psychology.Omagh@eani.org.uk</a>
Portadown	028 3835 1480	<a href="mailto:Psychology.Portadown@eani.org.uk">Psychology.Portadown@eani.org.uk</a>