

*Information for Parents /
Carers
on the Psychological Service*



getting
it right
for every child

Supporting children and young people to be:

- ◆ Safe
- ◆ Healthy
- ◆ Active
- ◆ Nurtured
- ◆ Achieving
- ◆ Respected
- ◆ Responsible
- ◆ Included



What is an Educational Psychologist?



Educational Psychologists have trained for at least 9 years and are required to be registered to practice with the Health & Care Professions' Council (HCPC). Educational Psychologists have specialist knowledge and training in the following areas:

- ◆ **child development and the particular learning, social and emotional difficulties that can arise;**
- ◆ **understanding the range of neurological and development conditions that affect children and young people e.g. autism, ADHD, dyslexia, visual and hearing impairment, language difficulties;**
- ◆ **approaches to learning which can enable children and young people to develop their full potential;**
- ◆ **assessment, counselling and solution focused approaches;**
- ◆ **research and evaluation.**

What do we do?

We work with others who are trying to help children and young people grow and develop as

- ◆ **Successful learners**
- ◆ **Confident individuals**
- ◆ **Responsible Citizens**
- ◆ **Effective contributors**

We gather information by talking to people who know your child well. We would always seek your view before deciding what to do. Using our knowledge of child development, learning and education we provide advice, training and support to those who are helping children and young people.

Sometimes we spend time observing and talking to your child or providing some help, support and advice to others. You will always be kept informed of the work we do usually at a meeting held in your child's school or nursery.

If we write a report about your child we will always send you a copy.



When do we become involved?

We can only become involved with your permission. Normally staff in your child's school will have carried out their own assessment and tried a number of things to help improve things for your child.

If the Head Teacher or the Head of Centre at your child's nursery is looking for further advice and support to help they may ask for your permission to discuss things with their link educational psychologist. If we feel we could be of some assistance we would always arrange to meet with you and staff in your child's school / nursery. Normally this meeting would involve the Educational Psychologist contributing to formulating a plan about what can be done to help. Sometimes this meeting will agree that there is some direct work for the educational psychologist to undertake, sometimes we will only help with the planning and other people who know your child best will work with your child.

Parents / carers sometimes want to request involvement of the educational psychologist directly. We always encourage parents / carers to speak to the Head of their child's school or Early Years' Centre in the first instance. However parents / carers can contact the Service directly for advice. The phone number can be found at the end of this leaflet.



What records to we keep?

We need to record information about your child and the discussions that take place. These will be stored in a confidential file held within our Service. All records will be confidentially destroyed when your child reaches 24 years of age. You and your child can request to see this information at any time by writing to the Principal Educational Psychologist.



What information will be shared?

To ensure that children and young people get the help they need, we often have to share some of the information we have with other agencies. For example information about what we do is usually shared with the school and sometimes education authority staff. We also might share information with other people who are involved with your child, for example a hospital doctor, social worker, speech and language therapist.

We only share information which is relevant to providing an adequate and efficient education for your child and we will normally ask your permission to do so. There are a limited number of exceptions where we do not have to get your permission before sharing information, but we must have a strong lawful reason for doing this. For example if we believe that a child is at serious risk, we must share this information with other agencies.



Getting It Right For Every Child



Contact details

Further Information

For further information about the Psychological Service please contact:

Principal Educational Psychologist

Psychological Service

c/o Carleith Primary School

Stark Avenue

Duntocher

Clydebank

G81 6EF

Tel: 01389 800491

Fax: 01389 873693

Email: PSoffice@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Other formats

This document can be provided in large print, Braille or on audio cassette and can be translated into different community languages. Please contact:

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系：

Inne formaty tego dokumentu mogą być dostarczone w dużym drukiem, Braille'a lub na kasecie audio i przekładają się na Wspólnoty różnych języków. Prosimy o kontakt:

ਇਹ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਨੂੰ ਵੱਡਾ ਛਾਪਾ, ਬਰੇਲ ਜ ਆਡੀਓ ਕੈਸੇਟ 'ਤੇ ਮੁਹੱਈਆ ਕਰਵਾਇਆ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਵੱਖ ਵੱਖ ਭਾਈਚਾਰੇ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ. ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ ਜੀ:

Corporate Communications, Council Offices, Garshake Road,

Dumbarton G82 3PU

Tel: 01389 737000

