



Bolton Educational Psychology Service

Bolton Educational Psychology Service (EPS) offers a range of advice, consultation, assessment, training and intervention to support children and young people aged 0-25 years old. We work with children and young people, families, staff and other professionals, in a range of settings applying psychology to promote positive outcomes.

We may be asked to be involved to support children who have needs in any of the following areas:

- Play and / or learning
- Speech and language
- Social interaction
- Social and emotional development
- Mental health needs
- Physical (fine or gross motor skills; medical conditions)
- Sensory needs (hearing, vision, sensory sensitivities)

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Information about how schools, colleges and local authorities help children with special educational needs is available in:

“Special educational needs and disability: A guide for parents and carers”

This is published by the Department for Education (DfE). You can get a copy by visiting the DfE website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education.



You can contact the service directly at:

Educational Psychology Service
Bolton SICT
Smithills Dean Road
Bolton
BL1 6JT

Telephone: 01204 338060

Bolton Council

Bolton Educational Psychology Service: A guide for parents and carers



What is an Educational Psychologist?

All Bolton Educational Psychologists have approved professional qualifications. This means that they have been trained to understand how children and young people develop and learn. They are also registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).



How do we become involved?

If you have any particular concerns about your child, you may want to discuss these with the school's Special Educational Needs and Disability Coordinator (SENDCo) and / or Head Teacher. The SENDCo / Head Teacher / Manager of the setting may then meet with you to complete an Early Help Form and use this to make a referral to the EPS with your consent.

If EPS involvement is appropriate, a member of staff will speak to you about how we might help your child and you will be asked if you would like to go ahead with EPS involvement.

What do we do?

Our involvement might include:

- Meeting with your child to gather their views
- Looking at children's work
- Observations of your child in the classroom and / or playground
- The use of activities and assessments to gain a clear understanding of your child's strengths and needs
- Individual or group intervention
- Consultations and person-centred meetings

The member of our team working with your child will try to make them feel relaxed and comfortable.

What about your views and your child's view?

You know your child best. Your views and knowledge are important in helping us understand your child's strengths and areas of need. We will want to meet with you to find out your views including information about your child's interests, strengths, needs and future goals and aspirations. We understand that children may be very different at home than they are at school, college or nursery.



What happens next?

You will make a plan with the EPS and staff.

The EPS will provide a written record of their work with your child. A copy of any report on your child will be provided to you as well as their school, college or nursery.

We will usually plan to discuss your child's progress during a future visit to the school, college or nursery. Staff will be asked to keep you informed of this.



What if I am unhappy or uncertain about what the EPS has said or written?

We will be happy to discuss any concerns you may have following our visit to the school, college or nursery.