

## Educational Psychology Service

### Description of Service

- The Harrow Educational Psychology Service provides direct psychological input to schools, children and families where there are concerns about a child's learning and development to bring about positive change and promote psychological well-being. We are committed to working with vulnerable children and families and provide consistency, continuity and quality assurance.
- The Service has long experience of delivering services in Harrow and has exceptional local knowledge and links. We are an integrated part of People Services with direct access to other Education and Social Care colleagues. We are involved in strategic and organisational work within the council and inter-agency working with health professionals, the voluntary sector and others.
- All the educational psychologists within the service are Health Care Professions Council (HCPC) registered.
- Individual interventions for children/young people including therapeutic interventions such as cognitive behavioural or solution focussed approaches.
- Facilitation of group work intervention such as Friends for Life or Social Skills.
- Psychological assessment, consultation and intervention in relationship to requests from schools for pupils with an EHC plan of Special Educational Needs.
- Attendance and contribution to multi-agency meetings not included in the core work.
- Mentoring /coaching with school staff in relation to school organisational issues.
- Drop-in consultation sessions for school staff/parents.
- Training for staff on a range of psychological/educational topics such as ADHD, ASD, dyslexia and emotional well-being.
- Research on topics identified within the school context.

### Current Situation

- The Local Authority continues to provide a level of service to cover core and statutory psychological work as well as other areas of work which allows the local authority to discharge its statutory duties.

### What do we offer under the SLA?

- Consultation with school staff to discuss, plan and problem-solve issues concerning individuals, groups or school matters.
- Psychological observation and assessment in relationship to pupils at SEN support level and produce associated records, recommendations or reports.

### Service Standards

- Wherever practical schools will retain their link educational psychologist but additional services may be provided by another psychologist or through joint working.
- Sessions include up to three hours face-to-face time and all administration, travel, report writing and non-contact time including telephone and email contact. In most circumstances one session will equate to one full day of EP time. The specific work is to be negotiated with the link educational psychologist.
- Termly school-based planning & review meetings to reflect on issues of concern and plan future work.

- Feedback, in an agreed format, on work undertaken in schools within 20 working days. For Statutory Assessments written reports will be provided.
- School staff and the Educational Psychologist will review work undertaken to date (this will include feedback on previously agreed interventions, the need for any ongoing Educational Psychology involvement and what the nature of future involvement might be).
- School staff and the Educational Psychologist will agree broad work plans for the coming time period (to include the range and breadth of work to be undertaken, realistic estimations of time required and any associated administration, preferred modes of feedback and dates for when work will take place).
- An individual pupil work plan will almost always include a parents/carers and school consultation meeting. Parents are a very important part of the consultation process and should give informed consent for all involvement. As school staff will have already established communication links with pupils' parents, it is expected that schools will contact and invite parents to meetings.
- Individual pupils' views are an extremely important part of the consultation process. Wherever possible these will be elicited (in an appropriate way) as part of any consultation or assessment.
- If an Educational Psychologist has to cancel an appointment due to short-term sickness or other unavoidable circumstance, completion of work may need to be re-negotiated at a later date.
- For longer term leave of absence or maternity leave, where necessary, the Educational Psychology Service will aim to provide suitable high calibre staff on a temporary basis to cover the leave.

### **School Responsibilities**

- Ensure that relevant staff members and pupils are given sufficient notice of consultation meetings to allow preparation and are given protected time to attend.
- Provide a quiet, suitable space for the Educational Psychologist to undertake consultations and other work in a confidential environment.
- Jointly agreed outcomes should be shared with relevant staff, parents/carers and pupils.
- Give 48 hours notice if a visit is to be cancelled

### **How does the SLA work?**

Schools are asked to commit to purchasing a yearly quota of sessions to be delivered from September 2020. The work is planned with the link Educational Psychologist at the termly planning and review meeting.

### **Cost of Service**

Sessions	Annual Cost
6	£3,450
8	£4,600
10	£5,750

- If you require more than 10 sessions, the first 10 are charged at £575 each and any additional sessions cost £550 each.
- Ad hoc sessions cost £625 each but are dependent on availability.

### **Contract Period**

This Service Agreement will run from **1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021**. Schools will be charged yearly, for a full year or part year, as appropriate.

### **Contact Details**

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