Consent

- The Educational Psychology Service can become involved in working to support a child with the informed consent of their parent or person holding parental rights.
- You will be asked to sign a consent form before the first consultation meeting with the educational psychologist.
- Young people over the age of 16 are able to provide consent themselves.
- If the educational psychologist is going to work directly with your child, you will be asked to sign a further consent form, giving permission for this piece of work.
- You may choose to withdraw consent at any time, and if so the case file would be closed and active involvement from the psychologist would cease.



Contacting the Psychological Service

If you have any further queries, please contact

Scottish Borders Council
Educational Psychology Service
Council Headquarters
Newtown St. Boswells
Melrose, TD6 0SA

Telephone: 01835 825098

Web-site:
http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/EPS

You can get this document on audio CD, in large print, and various other formats by contacting us at the address below. In addition, contact the address below for information on language translations, additional copies, or to arrange for an officer to meet with you to explain any areas of the publication that you would like clarified.

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Educational Psychology Service

Information for Parents and Carers



Scottish Borders COUNCIL

Who are educational psychologists?

- The Educational Psychology Service is part of Children and Young People's Services within Scottish Borders Council.
- Educational Psychology is a statutory service of the Local Authority that provides advice and support to young people from 0-24 years, their families and supporting adults.
- Educational psychologists work closely with teachers, parents and carers and young people to support children and young people.

How does an educational psychologist become involved?

- School staff can contact Educational Psychology for further advice and support.
- Parents/carers can contact Educational Psychology for further advice and support. In the first instance you should discuss any concerns with school staff. In most instances the school/nursery will work with you to manage any concerns raised.

What happens when an educational psychologist becomes involved?

- You will be invited to attend a meeting with the educational psychologist, school staff and any others who are involved in supporting your child. This is known as a consultation meeting.
- It may also be useful for your child to attend this meeting.
- The meeting will last about an hour.
- The meeting will discuss the strengths of your child, the issues or concerns, and work together to agree a way forward.
- At the end of the meeting there will be an agreed plan of action.
- A written record of the meeting will be sent to you and others who were present.
- A follow-up consultation meeting may be held to review the success of the action plan and decide if any further action is needed.



Will the educational psychologist work directly with my child?

- In some cases it may be agreed at the consultation meeting for the educational psychologist to work directly with a child.
- The educational psychologist may be involved directly in further assessment to get a clearer picture of how to help your child in school. This could involve, for example:
  - Observing your child in nursery, school or at home.
  - Looking at examples of your child's work.
  - Speaking to other supporting adults
  - Supporting further assessment
  - Talking and listening to your child.
  - Finding out your child's views about his or her educational progress and any things that are causing concern.

How else might educational psychologists help?

Sometimes the best way for educational psychologists to help is through less direct means such as:

- Advice and training for school staff
- Research projects that help improve teaching and learning
- Group work with pupils