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# Educational Psychologists working with you

A guide for Schools,  
Parents and Carers.

Catholic Care   
Children & Young People's Services

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## Educational Psychologists promote well being and inclusive learning for children and young people.

Educational psychologists are regulated by the Health and Care Professions Council ([www.hcpc-uk.org](http://www.hcpc-uk.org)), Educational Psychologists (EPs) will advise about child development, learning, emotional wellbeing and behaviour. They work with children and young people of ages 3-25.

As part of the School & Family Social Work Service EPs work with other professionals in the team to ensure every child receives a good service.

### How EPs work with educational settings

- EPs work at a number of levels:
  - Individual assessments of children
  - Group work, which includes teaching and multi-agency
  - Organisational/systems work, this includes training and practice development
  - Parent training and workshops
  - Drop in sessions for parents and professionals
- The EP will liaise closely with the setting to agree and prioritise their work
- The EP will help with training, advising adults and have direct involvement with children.

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## Educational settings and parents working together

### Consent

An EP can only work directly with children after the written consent permission of the parent or carer.

### If the EP is involved with your child

It is not always necessary for the EP to see your child for things to change. They can offer advice following discussions with parents and teaching staff.

If a more direct involvement is needed the EP will gain a better understanding of your child's strengths and difficulties through:

- Meeting and talking with parents
- Talking with staff
- Observing in the classroom or playground
- Talking to your child on their own or with you there if you wish
- Looking at school work
- Using activities or tests with them

Parents have the right to be present when the EP meets with their child. A parents presence can be reassuring for an anxious or very young child, who may find it difficult. Parents are likely to know best how their child will respond.

### How EPs work with parents

Parents views and knowledge are important in helping the EP to understand your child's needs.

Parents can help by:

- Telling the EP about their child, including his or her strengths
- Letting the EP know what their child is like at home
- Preparing any questions they would like to ask

### Confidentiality and records

The EP will write to parents and the school with their views and the advice they offer. All notes, letters and reports will be kept securely and privately at the EP's office at Catholic Care. The EP will not share the notes on a child with anyone without the permission of the parent. Except where there are issues of child protection or criminal proceedings. Catholic Care complies with the Data Protection Act 1998.

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Established in 1863, Catholic Care is a charitable organisation working on behalf of the Diocese of Leeds. In everything we do, we strive to show how the teachings of Christian love, charity and justice can shape the way we live together. As such, we provide a range of care and support services for vulnerable people across the community, regardless of their faith.

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Our service considers children's social, educational and cognitive needs in order to fulfil their

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Catholic Care   
School & Family Social Work Services

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