



Ellis House  
C/O Brampton Ellis Primary School  
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Dear Parent/Carers,

As part of the JMAT family of schools, your school is now able to access Educational Psychology (EP) support via a dedicated EP working for the JMAT Central Team. The EP will be able to provide psychological support to the school community. This will include support for children and young people, families and members of staff. They will work alongside colleagues from other support services as well as Local Authority Teams.

The EP will visit JMAT schools on a regular basis where they will discuss a wide range of issues related to Special Educational Needs Disabilities (SEND). For example, they may discuss SEND provision and offer feedback or suggest recommendations. In order to understand how SEND support and provision is delivered within the classroom settings, they may go into classrooms or shared spaces to observe general activities as well as teaching and learning. The EP may also offer consultation sessions to staff members as well as deliver training and development activities. The aim of this work is to provide child centred support in a timely and efficient manner.

It may be that specific young people are discussed during these activities. If you are comfortable for your child to be discussed during these visits, then you do not need to do anything further.


If you would like to be informed before your child is specifically discussed or if you do not give consent for your child to be involved in these discussions, please let either the Headteacher or SENCo of your school know immediately.

Occasionally the Educational Psychologist may carry out one to one work with an individual. This would only happen following an initial period of SEND support or intervention. If this is the case then parental consent will be gained by asking the parent/carer to sign and date a consent form. The EP will retain the form whilst any involvement is ongoing. The young person's assent/consent would always be sought before any activities are presented. During this involvement the EP may produce written reports, advice and recommendations. Parent/carers will be provided with a copy of any reports and they will have an opportunity to discuss these with the EP, if requested. Reports will only be forwarded to other external agencies following parental/carer consent and full reports will only be stored within the schools SEND records.

If you have any questions, queries or comments around the involvement of the Educational Psychologist, please contact the SENDco or Head Teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Karen Davies

HCPC: PYL28176  [www.hcpc-uk.org](http://www.hcpc-uk.org)

## **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ):**

### **What is an Educational Psychologist (EP)?**

An Educational Psychologist, or EP for short, is someone who has been specially trained to understand how young people develop, behave and learn.

### **When might staff talk to an EP about my child?**

You or adults working with your child may have concerns about your child's development, learning, wellbeing or relationships with others. After assessing, planning, implementing ideas and reviewing progress, the school may feel an EP's perspective in generating further solutions would be helpful. The first step might be for staff to talk to the EP during one of the regular planning meetings.

### **What does an Educational Psychologist do?**

EPs can work in many different ways, with many different types of people, settings and within different contexts. However, these are some of the things that an EP might do:

- Talk to you and staff about your child's strengths and any specific concerns
- Talk to you and the staff about your child and what approaches have been tried so far
- Suggest further action for helping your child
- Look at your child's work
- See and work with your child in the classroom and/or the playground
- Work with your child out of the classroom for a while; very young children may be accompanied by an adult they know well
- Use some activities or assessments to gain a clear understanding of your child's strengths and difficulties

EPs always try to make children feel relaxed and will make sure that they succeed in many of the activities and tasks given to them.

### **What about parents'/carers' views?**

Your views and knowledge of your child are important in helping us understand your child's strengths and difficulties. You are best placed to say what your child is like at home and out of school. This may be very different from the school or setting.

### **What happens next?**

If the EP has worked specifically with your child, they may provide a written record of their work. A copy of the report will be sent to you, as well as the school. The EP will usually plan to discuss your child's progress during a future visit to the school or setting. However, at times they may feedback through a telephone call or virtual meeting.

### **What if I'm unhappy or uncertain about what the EP has said or written?**

The EP will be happy to discuss any concerns you may have following their visit to the school. The report provides contact details so you can contact the EP directly or you could speak to the SENDco or Head Teacher in school who may also be able to help.

### **What if I have a complaint about the EP?**

If you have any concerns about the EP and the way in which they have worked, please contact the Head Teacher of the school to discuss your concerns.