



EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE SERVICE DELIVERY

As you will be aware, following consultation over the past eighteen months, the Educational Psychology Service (EPS) has introduced a new model of service delivery from September 2009. The model will provide open access consultation from a wider range of professionals, parents/carers as well as schools in response to the Every Child Matters agenda.

We will be providing psychological consultation, specialist and therapeutic support to the most vulnerable children and young people with significant and/or complex needs and drop-in consultations for secondary and special schools as requested. We will be operating in Local Delivery Area aligned teams. A named Senior EP for each area will continue to attend the Early Intervention and Prevention Panels, which consider Common Assessment Framework submissions. All schools will continue to have a named link EP. All schools will have access to planning consultation.

We will be using agreed priorities and professional judgement to help guide our involvement with individual children and young people and to ensure that other resources have been implemented and evaluated as appropriate. We will continue to provide consultation records to summarise EP views and agreed actions. Formal psychological reports will not usually be written until requests for statutory assessment under 1996 Education Act are agreed; however, clear evidence and records of EP involvement, such as consultation, planning notes or records will be required to help the decision making of the Formal Assessment Procedures Group. Guidance about making a request for statutory assessment is available in the Buckinghamshire SEN handbook.

All the information about how to contact the service, request consultation, link EPs and priorities is available on the EPS website, see link below.

The website also has useful information for educational staff, parents/carers and young people and links to other useful sources of information and will soon be updated. We hope that the new model and priorities will have a smooth implementation and that you will notice little difference. Your link EP will be contacting you during the Autumn Term. We have asked EPs to stagger planning consultation over a longer period to give them a more balanced workload.

If you have an urgent concern, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the service. We will continue to respond quickly when there has been a critical incident affecting a school community.

[Website: www.buckscc.gov.uk/schools/eps](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/schools/eps)

