

Enfield Educational Psychology Service

Address to:

All Headteachers/Principals
SENCOs

Please reply to: Educational Psychology Service
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Silver Street
Enfield
Middx EN1 3XA
Email: eps-sews@enfield.gov.uk
Phone: 020 8379 2000
Date: 1st September 2021

Dear colleagues,

Re: Key Service Updates & Model of Working (Autumn Term 2021)

I hope you have had a good summer. For the term ahead, here is a brief update relating to the Educational Psychology Service staff changes and service delivery in the context of the ongoing pandemic.

Further updates may be needed in the context of any local and national changes.

Leadership and Management updates:

The EPS has restructured the leadership team following a consultation process. The aim of this was to increase clarity of leadership and management roles within the service and the wider partnership.

- I am delighted to announce that Dr Emma Gore-Langton has been appointed to the new role of *Deputy Principal Educational Psychologist/Service Manager*. Together, Emma and I will work with our senior leadership team to ensure that the service is well led and managed and develops in partnership with the EP team, schools and partners to meet Enfield's emerging needs. Emma can be contacted on emma.gore-langton@enfield.gov.uk
- Dr Neerose Ubha and Sara Bierer have been assimilated into the posts of *Senior Educational Psychologists*. Neerose and Sara will each manage a team of EPs. Please do contact Neerose or Sara directly as needed.

neerose.ubha@enfield.gov.uk
sara.bierer@enfield.gov.uk
- Delali Kokutse recently started as the EPS Business Manager and we will be soon welcoming Adam Sacks (Operational Support).

Tony Theodoulou
Executive Director People
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Civic Centre, Silver Street
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Staff and school allocation changes

We have had a few staff changes, which is common at this time of year.

- We have bid a fond farewell to Zoe Hancock and Laura Brennen who both successfully completed their doctoral training and have secured posts in EP services in other local authorities. Zoe Ebanks (Children's Wellbeing Practitioner), Cassie Laver & Becca Stoica (Assistant Psychologists) are also moving on. Cassie will be starting her training in clinical psychology and Zoe in educational psychology. We are also saying goodbye and good luck to Dr Marisha Grant.
- Dr Emily Brees and Tobi Odeleye will be joining our team as Educational Psychologists. Some of you will already know Emily who was placed in Enfield through the final two years of her doctoral training.
- We are also welcoming Sophie Hoyle and Becky Mulhall, Year 2 Trainee Educational Psychologists, University College London.

As always, we try to minimise disruption to our schools, but there are inevitably some changes. All affected schools are being contacted directly.

Service Delivery

Planning meetings remain the best way to start to plan the package of support from your EP. This will give you chance to update us on any concerns at the whole school level that we can help with as well as identifying individual casework for the rest of the year (through the assess, plan do, review process).

We have learnt much over the course of the past 18 months and have adapted our way of working so that we can deliver a service safely. The pandemic is ongoing and therefore, as we proceed into the new term, we continue to proactively manage the risks and protect our staff and school communities together against the virus.

We appreciate that remote working has had its limitations in relation to interpersonal aspects of communication and we are committed to ensuring that we try wherever possible to return to face to face service delivery so that together we can best meet the needs of our children, young people and their families. The Educational Psychology Team are now expected to be working in schools and settings, in line with school visitor policies. Each member of the team will organise lateral flow tests twice a week – so they will be able to show you evidence of this as needed. This will be in place until at least the end of September, when it will be reviewed.

Our EPs will endeavour to be as flexible as possible in relation to meeting your needs and

managing the COVID-related challenges:

- Where necessary, EPs will continue to work in a remote capacity with schools if isolation is necessary following a positive COVID test, but they are well enough to work.
- Our EPs will work with you and come to a joint decision when a virtual meeting might be preferable in the circumstances, e.g. INSET, planning meetings, ad hoc meetings with adults or if a child/young person is isolating.
- We are aware that on-site visits may be cancelled at short notice by the school. We will work with you to agree an alternative task to use this planned time. Whilst we will endeavour to rearrange cancelled on-site visits, it may not be always possible. If the visit is cancelled by the EP, the visit will be re-arranged.

School visits & safety

We are continuing to put precautions and procedures in place for school visits to keep our team, child or young person (CYP) and school staff safe. As part of this process, we ask that you:

- Provide the EP with a copy of your school visitor guidance at the start of the year (and any updated versions thereafter).
- Ensure there is a suitable protocol for the EP entering the building and an available room that can be used to carry out any individual assessment work that has space for the adult(s) and the CYP to maintain social distancing.
- Inform the EP if your school/setting has its own specific policy on the wearing of face masks prior to the visit (e.g. if you expect visitors to wear a mask in the corridor).
- Agree arrangements for use of PPE if needed or requested by the school, CYP or family e.g. facemask, gloves and hand sanitiser.
- It is the school's role to liaise with the parents/carers and obtain consent relating to the school visit involving direct work with the CYP.
- Immediately notify your EP if a focus CYP, parent/carer or member of staff who the EP has been contact with has had a positive COVID test. Our team are advised to organise a COVID PCR test as soon as practically possible.

On the day of the visit

Your EP will ensure that:

- All assessment kit cases, materials and resources are sanitised with cleaning wipes before the visit.

- High levels of hand and respiratory hygiene are observed throughout the period of the visit.
- Hand sanitiser is used on arrival to the school and repeated before and after each contact with a CYP.
- The surfaces are wiped down by the EP prior to commencement of contact with CYP and after the contact has finished.

After the visit

The EP will ensure that:

- Wipeable materials and resources are cleaned after each use.
- The school is notified immediately if the EP has tested positive following a COVID PCR or lateral flow test.

We hope this is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact us to discuss any concerns you have with any of the above ways of working or guidelines.

Wishing you all a safe and smooth transition back to school this term.

Yours faithfully



Suzy Francis
Principal Educational Psychologist
On behalf of the EPS Leadership Team