

Referral to an Educational Psychologist

A school may seek your consent to refer your child to an Educational Psychologist (EP) where, despite interventions and support with their learning, your child continues to experience difficulties with learning and/or behaviour. The Educational Psychologist will usually:

- Meet with you to obtain background information about your child and to obtain your views on their progress and any difficulties they are experiencing
- Discuss the school's concerns about your child's progress with the SENCo and class teacher
- Meet with your child to carry out a range of assessments. These are likely to be 'closed' assessments which means that they can only be carried out by a qualified Educational Psychologist. The tests are designed to provide information about the way in which your child learns and to identify any barriers to learning which could be reduced through appropriate intervention such as targeted support and resources.
- Write a report containing their findings which will be sent to yourselves and the school. It may also be sent directly to the Local Authority if the assessment has been requested by a Local Authority Officer.

Understanding a report from an Educational Psychologist

You will receive a copy of the EP's report. This will contain a lot of information about the tests that were used and it is a good idea to request a meeting with the SENCo to discuss the findings and recommendations in the report.

The 'Summary' and 'Recommendations' sections (these may be called 'Provision and Arrangements to meet identified outcomes' or something similar) towards the end of the report can make a good starting point when you receive the report. These sections will provide a summary of your child's difficulties and suggestions for what can be done to reduce their impact on your child's learning and progress.

The rest of the report contains the information and assessments which have been used to contribute to these sections. There is usually accompanying information to explain the specific assessments and results in more detail which you should find helpful.

Shropshire Educational Psychology Service produce leaflets to help children and young people understand the process of assessment by an Educational Psychologist.

These can be accessed through **Shropshire Council's Local Offer** by using this link: <https://www.shropshireg.net/services/educational-psychology-service/forms,-leaflets-and-training-flyers/>

Further information about the Shropshire Educational Psychology Service can be found on the Local Offer:

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/the-send-local-offer/education/education-services/educational-psychology-service/>

Where can I get further information, advice or support?

Contact the IASS team on:

Phone: 01743 280019 (Open 10am-4pm Monday—Friday)

Web: www.cabshropshire.org.uk

www.facebook.com/IASSShropshire

Email: iass@cabshropshire.org.uk

Address: Fletcher House, 15 College Hill, Shrewsbury, SY1 1LY