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| <b>POST TITLE</b>             | <b>EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST (EP)</b> |
| <b>DIRECTORATE</b>            | Children, Education and Justice      |
| <b>SERVICE</b>                | Educational Psychology Service       |
| <b>RESPONSIBLE TO</b>         | Principal Educational Psychologist   |
| <b>NUMBER OF POST HOLDERS</b> |                                      |

#### **PURPOSE OF JOB**

This role offers an exciting opportunity to contribute to improving outcomes for all City of Edinburgh's children and young people. The Educational Psychology Service applies psychology to promote learning, development and inclusion at the level of the individual, educational establishments and local authority.

This is a time of transformational change for inclusion in Edinburgh and the Educational Psychology Service has a unique role in that. In line with the local authority priorities of supporting inclusion, closing the poverty related attainment gap, supporting children and young people with Additional Support Needs and those who are care experienced, the Educational Psychology Service strives to support the local authority goal of providing inclusive, equitable, valuable learning opportunities for everyone. Through our use of self-evaluation we are now developing our consultation practice, revising our assessment methods and refreshing our evidence based intervention to continuously improve our service delivery.

The post holder will deliver the full range of educational psychology services as part of City of Edinburgh Council Educational Psychology Service as directed by the Principal Educational Psychologist. Duties will be carried out in accordance with national policy and legislation, the ethical and conduct codes of the British Psychological Society, the Health and Care Professions Council standards, City of Edinburgh Council policy and procedure and Educational Psychology Service practice guidelines.

#### **THE WHAT - MAJOR TASKS/JOB ACTIVITIES**

- Provide a service to a group of educational establishments and contribute to planning and provision for children and young people.
- Be a member of a locality team of educational psychologists
- Be involved in multidisciplinary assessments of pupils who may have additional support needs. This will include duties of a statutory nature, as required under relevant legislation.
- To support the development of positive relationships and emotional wellbeing of children and young people using evidence based interventions with individual learners and groups.
- Contribute to schools' planning for vulnerable pupils through involvement in the Getting It Right For Every Child process by taking a strength based, solution focussed approach to individual planning and review.
- Contribute to policy work, initiatives and interventions at a whole school level that promote the development, learning and inclusion of children and young people.
- Contribute to the Children, Education and Justice Service's policies and planning at a strategic level; to evaluations of authority-wide initiatives; and carry out research to inform evidence-based policy and practice.
- Contribution to self evaluation and service improvement through our service working groups and practice implementation groups.
- Provide training to stakeholders and disseminate evidence-based practice at a school, learning community or authority-wide level. Ensure that training is evaluated and embedded in practice.

- To support other professionals in their roles with children and young people with additional support needs as and when appropriate.
- This list is indicative of activity, not exhaustive, and describes a range of typical activities undertaken by the post holder.

#### **THE HOW - KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS**

- The post holder will have in-depth knowledge of Psychology and its application in practice in relation to child development and learning.
- The post holder will have good organisational and time management skills in order to effectively coordinate their support to educational establishments.
- The EP should have a high standard of oral communication and written communication skills. They will communicate clearly and regularly with key stakeholders to develop a shared understanding of additional support needs and advise on strategies to meet these.
- Maintain accurate and up to date records of work and other statistics relating to the work of the service as required.
- The EP will show the council behaviours of respect, integrity and flexibility in all aspects of their work.
- The EP will have effective skills in all areas of the Currie matrix: consultation, assessment, intervention, training and research.
- The post holder will identify and escalate any matters of concern in line with council child protection procedures.
- The post is subject to enhanced PVG scheme membership.

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

- The post holder will work in busy educational environments but may sometimes meet children or young people in their home or local community venues if it is appropriate to do so.
- All employees are expected to adhere to Council standards of practice in line with policy, e.g. health and safety.
- There will be demands associated with complex situations or the need to maintain emotional resilience in potentially upsetting circumstances.
- The post holder will use their time and resources effectively and efficiently to maximise the level of support they can offer at individual, school and local authority level.

#### **SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT OF PEOPLE**

- There is typically no management of staff required in the role.
- The post holder will meet regularly with their line manager to review their work and discuss professional development.
- Undertake a programme of continuing professional development
- The post holder will take part in the service peer supervision which may include supervising educational psychologists in training.
- To maintain accreditation and professional standards of Health Care and Professionals Council (HCPC).

#### **RESOURCES**

- Responsibility for maintaining reliable up to date written and electronic records of their contact with children, young people and their parents/carers and other stakeholders.
- The post holder will have access to a range of assessment materials, ICT and relevant texts. They will have a responsibility to log when they use these and return them in a timeous manner.

#### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

All employees are responsible for:

- Taking care of their own health and safety and welfare, and that of others who may be affected by their actions or omissions.
- Co-operating with management and following instructions, safe systems and procedures;
- Reporting any hazards, damage or defects immediately to their line manager; and
- Reporting any personal injury and work related ill health, and accident or incident (including 'near misses') immediately to their line manager, and assist with any subsequent investigation, including co-operating fully with the provision of witness statements and any other evidence that may be required.