

# **LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM**

## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

<b>Designation:</b>	<b>Maingrade Educational Psychologist</b>
<b>Grade:</b>	<b>Soulbury EP Scale A 3 – 8 (+SPAs)</b>
<b>Reports to (Designation):</b>	<b>Senior Educational Psychologist</b>
<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children &amp; Young People</b>
<b>Section:</b>	<b>Educational Psychology Team</b>

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### **Main Purpose of the job:**

- To work as a member of the Lewisham Educational Psychology Team to raise the educational attainment and promote the emotional and mental wellbeing of all children and young people
  - To provide a psychological service to children and young people, families, schools and other settings in Lewisham.
  - To carry out delegated responsibilities on behalf of the Senior EP as the need arises
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### **GENERAL DUTIES**

- Offer consultation, assessment and intervention to support and advise schools, other settings and parents and carers on the educational, psychological and social inclusion needs of individual children and young people, aged 0-25, in order to help overcome developmental, emotional and learning challenges.
- Present clear, informative written information as required.
- Offer a consultative service to the schools about systemic issues relating to groups of children
- Advise the Local Education Authority on the special educational needs of children and young people according to the requirements of the Children and Families Act (2014) and the SEND Code of Practice: 0-25 years (2014)
- Contribute to Educational Psychology Team development and training and work collaboratively with team members to achieve the objectives in the Development Plan
- Attend EP service development days, in house CPD and team meetings.
- Contribute to research initiatives with a view to advising the LA on a range of pertinent issues.
- Keep up to date with current and impending legislation and take account of its likely effect on professional practice.

- Work flexibly, as required, to provide a high quality, user led service, relevant to individual and community needs
- Carry out assessments and prepare written documentation following tribunal requests, with appropriate supervision
  - Represent the EP Service at relevant LA SEN and other multi-professional panel meetings
- Engage in professional reflection through regular supervision with a Senior Educational Psychologist in relation to professional issues and development and to support identification of own training needs.
- Participate in Lewisham's Induction and Appraisal Scheme to monitor and evaluate performance and to undertake appropriate training and development identified to enhance work performance.

### **Statutory requirements**

Registered with the Health and Care Professions Council as a Practitioner Psychologist

### **Equal Opportunities**

- Carry out the duties of the post with due regard to the Council's equalities and diversity policies and Core Values and adhering to compliance with the Equality Act 2010

### **Internal Contacts**

- Maintain contacts with staff in own and other departments including, head teachers, SENDCos, teachers, SEND colleagues, attendance & welfare officers, social workers, and other specialist advisory and support workers

### **External Contacts**

- Maintain contact with appropriate officers in the Health Authority, with parents and carers, community and other voluntary groups, with the equivalent officers in other Local Education Authorities and other external agencies as necessary.

The duties mentioned above are neither exclusive nor exhaustive and the post holder may be called upon to carry out such other appropriate duties as required by the Line Manager within the grading level of the post and the competence of the post holder.

# **PERSON SPECIFICATION**

**JOB TITLE:** Educational Psychologist

**GRADE:** Soulbury 3-8 (+ SPA points)

**Directorate:** Children & Young People

**The Person Specification is a picture of the skills, knowledge and experience needed to carry out the job. It has been used to draw up the advert and will also be used in the shortlisting and interview process for this post.**

**Those categories marked 'S' will be used especially for the purpose of shortlisting.**

***If you are a disabled person, but are unable to meet some of the job requirements specifically because of your disability, please address this in your application. If you meet all the other criteria you will be shortlisted and we will explore jointly with you if there are ways in which the job can be changed to enable you to meet the requirements.***

## **CATEGORY**

## **ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS S\***

### **1. Job related knowledge/aptitude/skills**

#### **Knowledge:**

Awareness of the impact of recent and impending legislation on the work of an educational psychologist **S1**

Understanding of the needs and developmental stages of children and young people aged 0-25 **S2**

Knowledge of psychological theories and how they impact on the work of the Educational Psychologist **S3**

#### **Aptitude/Skills:**

Ability to write clear and concise reports and to communicate on a range of complex issues, in particular in relation to individual children and their needs **S4**

Good organizational skills and ability to prioritise effectively to achieve objectives

Ability to inspire and support colleagues, working together to provide a high quality service contributing to a high quality team **S5**

Ability to form effective and positive relationships with children and young people, parents, schools and other institutions, colleagues and other professionals **S6**

Have clear and realistically high expectations of self and others

2. **Experience:**  
Experience of working with children, young people and their families gained either from a training course or through employment. **S7**  
  
Some experience of research  
  
Experience of presenting to a wide range of audiences and giving training to a high standard **S8**
3. **General Education:**  
Honours degree in psychology or recognised equivalent conferring eligibility for graduate member registration with the British Psychological Society.  
  
Successful completion of a recognised post-graduate training course as an educational psychologist or doctorate in Educational Psychology. **S9**
4. **Personal Skills and Qualities:**  
Sensitivity to the needs of children, young people and their families.  
  
Clear, supportive and collaborative communication skills with colleagues  
Schools and other settings, parents and carers, children and young people, institutions and the community **S10**  
  
Creativity and solution focused in considering positive outcomes and strategies to achieve those outcomes  
  
Self-motivation and resilience to ensure the effective completion of tasks within determined timescales  
  
Confident ability to support schools, settings and other professionals and to offer constructive challenge with the aim of improving practice and outcomes for children and young people **S11**  
  
Ability to show initiative and to respond flexibly to need **S12**
5. **Physical:**  
Generally must meet LBL requirements for the post
6. **Equal Opportunities**  
Awareness of Lewisham Council's policies and procedures relating to equalities and diversity, commitment to implement these and to challenge anti-discriminatory practice **S13**  
  
Commitment to uphold the EP team's anti-racist policy so as to affirm and support BME children and families, and to ensure that service delivery confronts issues of racism, the impact it has on our work and the people we work with. **S14**