### Referral to a Educational Psychologist (EP)

If your child continues to experience difficulties with learning or behaviour despite support and interventions, their school may ask for your consent to refer them to an **Educational Psychologist (EP)**.

**What Does an Educational Psychologist Do?**

If an EP is involved with your child, they will usually:

* Meet with you to gather background information about your child and understand your views on their progress and challenges.
* Discuss the school’s concerns with the **SENCo** and class teacher.
* Meet with your child and carry out specialised assessments, known as ‘closed’ assessments, which can only be conducted by a qualified EP. These assessments provide insights into how your child learns and identify barriers that can be addressed with targeted support and resources.
* Write a report detailing their findings and recommendations. This report will be shared with you, the school, and, if requested by the Local Authority, sent directly to them.

**Understanding the EP’s Report**

You will receive a copy of the EP’s report, which contains detailed information about your child’s assessments. It’s a good idea to meet with the **SENCo** to review the findings and recommendations.

Focus on these key sections of the report:

* **Summary and Recommendations** (sometimes called “Provision and Arrangements to meet identified outcomes” or similar): These provide a concise overview of your child’s difficulties and practical steps to support their learning and progress.
* **Assessment Details**: These sections explain the tests used and results in more depth, along with accompanying information to help you understand how the findings were reached.

**Resources for Children and Families**

The **Shropshire Educational Psychology Service** offers leaflets to help children and young people understand the assessment process. These resources, along with further details about the service, can be found on the Local Offer:

* Shropshire Educational Psychology Service Forms and Leaflets
* Shropshire Educational Psychology Service on the Local Offer

**Where to Get Support**

If you need further information, advice, or guidance, contact **Shropshire SENDIASS**. We’re here to help you navigate the process and understand the steps you can take to support your child.