



AEP Policy Statements in Relation to the Management of Educational Psychology Services and the Role of Principal Educational Psychologists

Supervision

- All educational psychologists have the right to and should expect appropriate supervision of their work.
- With the exception of principal educational psychologists, a qualified educational psychologist should provide all such supervision.
- The practice of principal educational psychologists should always be supervised by other qualified educational psychologists.
- The provision of supervision to educational psychologists entails professional and managerial responsibilities at such a level that this amount of responsibility can only be properly remunerated by the supervisor being paid on the Soulbury B Scale for Senior and Principal Educational Psychologists

Educational Psychology Services

- Each Local Authority shall maintain an authority-wide educational psychology service. Such a service shall be characterised by:
 - o Leadership by a principal educational psychologist
 - o Responsibility for supervision of the professional practice of the authority's educational psychologists
 - o Shared responsibility for the performance management of educational psychologists, particularly in relation to matters of professional practice
 - o The authority to intervene in relation to professional decisions at area management levels
 - o Representation of the professional view and needs of the educational psychology team at senior management level in the Local Authority
 - o Leadership at the frequent meetings of managers within the service
 - o A capacity to operate and participate at a strategic and authority level
 - o Shared opportunities and budgets for Continuing Professional Development
 - o Capacity to budget for professionally specific materials and equipment e.g. major tests.

The Leadership of Educational Psychology Services

- Each Local Authority educational psychology service shall be led by a principal educational psychologist who is fully qualified and registered to practice as an educational psychologist.
- Principal educational psychologists should have adequate time available to carry out all the necessary management and leadership functions of their posts.
- Where the duties of principal educational psychologists are extensive it will be necessary to create sufficient promoted posts within the educational psychology service to allow for adequate and appropriate delegation of the managerial and leadership functions of the principal educational psychologist.
- Educational psychologists shall have a right of access to the principal educational psychologist for supervision and for intervention on their behalf when line managers may have given professionally inappropriate directions.
- The principal educational psychologist in any authority shall provide, as a minimum, the professional lead for the psychology services and a professional input at individual, team and authority-wide levels.
- Where the principal educational psychologist in any Local Authority is not a member of its senior management team he or she shall have appropriate direct access to a senior manager of that authority who can directly protect the interests and represent the views of the educational psychology service to the senior management team.
- Any Local Authority making re-structuring proposals involving educational psychologists should indicate how they will ensure EPs are provided with the appropriate time and resources to conduct both statutory and non-statutory work, essential to child wellbeing and development, and inclusive education.

Principal Educational Psychologists

- In any authority the role and responsibilities of the principal educational psychologist shall be distinct from those of any senior educational psychologists with area management responsibility and must not be combined with such a senior post.
- As a minimum, the principal educational psychologist's role in a Local Authority shall include:
 - o Professional leadership of the educational psychology team
 - o Responsibility for supervision of the practice of the authority's educational psychologists
 - o Shared responsibility for the performance management of educational psychologists, particularly in relation to matters of professional practice
 - o The authority to intervene in relation to professional decisions at area management levels
 - o Representation of the professional view and needs of the educational psychology team at senior management level in the Local Authority

- o Leadership of the frequent meetings of managers within the service
 - o Operation and participation at a strategic and authority level
 - o Management of a hypothecated budget for Continuing Professional Development and professionally specific material e.g. major tests
 - o Shared responsibility for the professional induction of all colleagues new to the service
 - o Shared responsibility for the appointment of educational psychologists to the Authority.
 - o Responsibility for the Authority's role in the engagement and training of trainee educational psychologists.
- In order to continue to practice and to provide professional oversight of colleagues, principal educational psychologists shall maintain their registration with the statutory regulator, the Health and Care Professions Council.
- Principal educational psychologists should have adequate time available to them to carry out all the necessary management and leadership functions of their posts.
- Where the duties of principal educational psychologists are extensive it will be necessary to create sufficient promoted posts within the educational psychology service to allow for adequate and appropriate delegation of the managerial and leadership functions of the principal educational psychologist.

