

THE ED PSYCH PRACTICE

**Assessment Services, Research and Evaluation
Client Information and Agreement of Terms and Conditions**

In accordance with our Data Protection Policy, recipients of The Ed Psych Practice services should be aware of the following points:

1. Confidentiality

The information that we hold will be treated in the strictest confidence and in accordance with The Ed Psych Practice’s Terms and Conditions. In exceptional circumstances a Court of Law may require us to disclose information to them, in which case we cannot refuse to cooperate without risking serious punishment. Information will not be shared with schools and other professionals without permission from the client. Peer reviews are mandatory for all consultants at The Ed Psych Practice in line with Continued Professional Development requirements. Thus client case information may be discussed according to current professional practice guidelines ensuring anonymity and confidentiality.

2. Report and Record Storage

We will undertake to hold a copy of any assessment report on file for a minimum period of seven years, after which time it may be destroyed. Recipients of reports may, therefore, find it helpful to keep a copy of the assessment report in a secure place.

3. Future Contacts

From time to time we may wish to ask for the views of those who have used our services. We value feedback from our clients as it helps us to improve the services that we offer. We would appreciate your cooperation if you are contacted. Occasionally we undertake research projects and you may be invited to take part in these. If clients do not wish to be contacted for research purposes or services, they should tick the box below.

4. Access to Personal Information

Clients are entitled to see all the information that we hold on them/their child. This would normally be made available as part of the assessment and evaluation services. However, if more details or additional copies of the information held are required, we will need to raise a charge to cover administration, copying, etc.

I do not wish to be contacted for research purposes

I do not wish to be contacted regarding services

Parent/s Name:	Address:	Contact no:
		Home:
		Work:
		Mobile:
		Email:

I have read and agree with the terms and conditions of The Ed Psych Practice.

Signature of parent:

Date:

Name of child/ (block capitals please):

DOB:

THE ED PSYCH PRACTICE

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The Ed Psych Practice hopes that its services will be experienced positively, providing, wherever possible, answers to questions and suggestions on how to move forward. The assessment, screening and consultation exercises are key elements of understanding an individual's strengths and difficulties in order to plan appropriate action. The focus of the overall process is always the individual and it is this person's interests that will be put first. In order to obtain a balanced picture it is helpful to have background information from home, school, and other professionals. However, no contact will be made with others without prior permission from clients and, as explained in our data protection statement, no information will be released without prior permission.

The following Terms and Conditions are designed to describe fully the operation of The Ed Psych Practice's services to minimise the potential for misunderstanding.

The Ed Psych Practice will:

1.

- a. arrange a suitable assessment, screening or consultation for the client¹ with a consultant at The Ed Psych Practice.
- b. arrange an assessment, screening or consultation for the client that is relevant to the reason for referral and within the area of The Ed Psych Practice's expertise.
- c. where appropriate, request completion of suitable questionnaires covering background information and, if appropriate, request additional information from relevant professionals relating to the reason for referral.
- d. ensure that when a client is individually assessed, they will receive provisional, verbal feedback from the consultant immediately after the assessment session.
- e. provide reports **within three weeks** of the assessment. Individual assessments may highlight the client's strengths and weaknesses, offer advice on appropriate learning and coping strategies, and give information on sources of appropriate teaching and advice/support etc, where relevant. Where appropriate, reports will be circulated to both purchasers and clients. If a client needs the report before the three week deadline, this needs to be discussed with the consultant.
- f. arrange for assessments and screenings to be performed in a suitable assessment room (when taking place in The Ed Psych Practice's premises)
- g. provide waiting area facilities. However it should be noted that The Ed Psych Practice office staff cannot be held responsible for the supervision of children on The Ed Psych Practice premises whilst their parents are in discussion with the consultant. If your child requires supervision please bring an adult along with you for the assessment.
- h. attend to any queries about reports as quickly as possible.

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1. A 'client' being assessed can be an adult, young person or a child. Where the client being assessed is a child, i.e. under the age of 16 years, the client's parent(s)/ carer(s) will usually be considered as the client for the purpose of confirming these Terms and Conditions. Generally, young persons aged 16-17 are entitled to the same duty of confidence as adults. Therefore, their parent(s)/carer(s) should explain and discuss with them in advance the reason for the assessment, and obtain their agreement to proceed within the conditions of the above Terms and Conditions. Where children do not have the capacity and understanding, decisions to share information may be taken by a person with parental responsibility in consultation with the professional involved. A client can also be the purchaser of The Ed Psych Practice's services.

2.

- a. in all of its dealings, conform to UK laws concerning the processing and information and civil rights of the client being assessed²
- b. enable and support its consultants to apply their professional codes of conduct/ethics at all times when engaging with their clients.
- c. monitor and maintain acceptable standards of quality from its consultants.
- d. arrange for educational and psychological/language/ occupational assessments, and ensure that they are performed only by appropriately qualified consultants.

3. The Ed Psych Practice reserves the right to terminate, or not to accept, a referral, or not circulate a report, if:

- a. the referral appears to be outside its area of expertise.
- b. there is an apparent conflict of interest between relevant parties.
- c. any relevant parties are in, or intend to be in, dispute.
- d. the Ed Psych Practice's status could be compromised if there are current legal or tribunal proceedings that may be affected by The Ed Psych Practice's involvement.
- e. it cannot provide the report in the time required.
- f. the fee has not been paid at the required time.
- g. a consultant decides to terminate their involvement for any just reason.
- h. the assessment is for tribunal or medico legal purposes.
- i. the client being assessed fails to comply with any of the conditions stated above and in this document where such failure could compromise the validity of the assessment.

In the case of termination or non-acceptance of a referral or non-circulation of a report, under sub-clauses a, b, c, d, e, f, g, and h, i above, if a fee has already been received, the administrative and assessment fees shall be returned to the client/purchaser and only the dues for services provided up to termination will be kept by The Ed Psych Practice.

4. The commissioner/purchaser (if not the client being assessed) will:

- a. complete and return relevant questionnaires, or other pertinent information, when requested to do so.
- b. use reports for the sole purpose of attending to the needs of the client being assessed.
- c. pay fees when requested to do so by The Ed Psych Practice and agree to pay the full fee for appointments cancelled without notification of prior warning or good cause. The Ed Psych Practice prefers that payment be made via one paying agent only.
- d. respect the confidential status of reports and conform to the regulations of the Data Protection Act 1998.
- e. agree with the client being assessed, in advance of the assessment, the reason for referral to The Ed Psych Practice and obtain the client's agreement to proceed with the assessment.

² In particular, the Data Protection Act 1998, Disability Discrimination Act 2005 and Article 8, (right to private life), Human Rights Act 1998

- f. agree with the client being assessed, in advance of The Ed Psych Practice's involvement and the arrangements for distribution of reports. The report will not be circulated to other parties without the client's consent.

5. The client being assessed will:

- a. be punctual for the assessment. If a client is running late, the consultant/office needs to be informed. Waiting charges for the consultant will be part of the session cost.
- b. confirm with the consultant performing an assessment if any confidential information given verbally or through relevant questionnaires should not be divulged in the report.**
- c. inform the consultant if he/she has received any assessment in the past that may have a bearing on the assessment to be performed
- d. inform The Ed Psych Practice prior to the assessment of any personal, health or other factors that may influence the assessment to be performed
- e. bring with them any hearing aids and prescription spectacles/coloured overlays if it is the client's normal way of working.
- f. complete and return relevant questionnaires or other pertinent information when requested to do so
- g. not use or circulate the report for any other purpose than for what it is intended
- h. respect the confidential status of the report and conform to the regulations of the Data Protection Act 1998
- i. where applicable, agree with the commissioner/purchaser of the assessment, in advance of the assessment, the reason for referral to The Ed Psych Practice and give their written agreement to proceed with the assessment
- j. agree to all of the above terms and conditions

6. Description of Consultation Sessions at The Ed Psych Practice:

- a. Consultants: hourly rates with Consultants (Psychologists, Occupational Therapists, Speech Therapists, Therapists) will include face to face contact with clients, administration time where appropriate, email & telephone consultations after the first face to face meeting, any visits to the school/home, discussions with school staff and relevant professionals as appropriate. Depending on the length of the case, there will be a report writing charge (minimum 3 hours) if requested and if appropriate.
- b. A 24 hour notice is required if an hourly rate client wishes to cancel or reschedule an agreed appointment. This needs to be done either by leaving a voice message on the consultant's mobile or office mobile or via email. If Monday appointments need to be cancelled or rescheduled, the consultant needs to know by 4:30 pm on Friday the previous week. If no such notification is received and a client fails to turn up for the session, the client will be charged for the duration of the booked session. There will be exceptional unforeseen circumstances where it is not possible to give advance notice and this will be dealt with on a case by case basis by The Ed Psych Practice.**
- c. Some assessments may be subject to a travel charge. This is for school and home consultations outside Zone 1. Travel rates will be charged at half the hourly agreed consultant fee.
- d. Some assessments are subject to fixed assessment fees such as assessments carried out by Psychologists, Speech and Language Therapists, and Occupational Therapists. We do give you feedback after the assessment and also 1 free consultation via telephone for a maximum of 30 minutes. Any further consultations will require the client to make a telephone or face to face appointment with the consultant which will be charged at the practice hourly rate.

7. Payments and Cancellation for all clients:

- a. **unless funded by a third party, clients will pay the fee when requested to do so by The Ed Psych Practice and agree to pay 50% of the full fee for assessment appointments cancelled without notification or prior warning or good cause if not cancelled 48 hours before the appointment.**
- b. at times certain assessments requested by a third party might involve further testing depending on results on the day of the assessment. When further testing is required, this will be discussed by the third party with the client. The Ed Psych Consultant will also explain why the additional tests are necessary. Further testing will only be carried out when the client is in agreement with the third party. The additional costs of the assessment will be charged at practice hourly rates which will be met by the client on top of the agreed fees with the third party. A separate invoice will be sent by The Ed Psych Practice which needs to be settled before the report can be sent to clients and the third party.
- c. unless funded by a third party, clients will pay the assessment fees as requested on the day of the assessment. Reports will not be released till full payment is received.
- d. an invoice will be sent on a monthly basis to all hourly rate clients along with a time sheet. All payments need to be cleared within 7 days of the invoice. If invoices are not cleared the consultant will not release reports or may have to terminate therapeutic/consultative support. In certain circumstances if we are working along with the school, we will have to inform them about our decision.
- e. a monthly invoice will be sent to schools who buy in services from The Ed Psych Practice. Sometimes an invoice will be sent after an agreed piece of work. Payments need to be made within 14 days of the invoice.
- f. online payment can be made using debit or credit cards; there will be a 3.5% mandatory fee when paying by credit or debit card towards bank handling fees. If requested by the client, an email notification will be sent to you to pay online using a debit or credit card.
- g. payment can be made by cash or cheques payable to 'The Ed Psych Practice'. Internet, Telephone Banking or BACS payment to 'The Ed Psych Practice' is also available. All payment options and account details are in the invoice or available on request.
- h. if clients are unable to pay the fees of the assessment and services offered prior to the initial appointment, please contact Priya Dhingra, the Lead Practitioner on 079 9053 8654
- i. all payments need to be made within 7 days of receiving the invoice.
- j. if payments are not cleared within 7 days of the invoice, a reminder will be issued to you. If the payment is not cleared within the next 21 days, the client will be referred to a Debt Collection Agency and further charges will be added which will be met by the client.