Name of service/organisation:

Educational Psychology and Early Years Special Educational Needs (Kirklees Council’s Children and Young People’s Services)

**Description:** The Early Years Special Education Needs team supports children from 0-7 who show some delay in their development.

We are a team of:

* Portage Home Visitors
* Child Care Inclusion workers
* Portex teachers
* Educational Psychologists

We work with children and their families at home, in early year’s settings and up to the end of Year 2 in schools.

**Who do we work with?**

The children we work with have complex needs such as:

* Down’s syndrome
* cerebral palsy
* specific learning difficulties
* medical needs (for example, epilepsy)
* developmental delay
* live in families with complex needs
* looked after children
* newly fostered or adopted children
* social communication difficulties
* premature birth

**What we do**

**At home**

Portage is a home-based teaching service for the families of pre-school children who show some delay in their development. Portage aims to enable parents/carers to teach their own children in their own homes, supported by a Portage Home Visitor.

The Portage approach helps parents/cares to answer two important questions:

* what to teach?
* how to teach it?

Portage parents/carers find that their child can learn new skills and the family can take pleasure and pride in their child’s success.

**In early years settings and schools**

In early years settings and schools, the early years special educational needs team aims to support staff and parents/carers with what and how to teach children who show some delay in their development. They do this through:

* consultations with parents/carers and staff to develop strategies to meet the child’s needs
* time-limited interventions to support the setting put into place individual learning plans

**... and finally**

In addition the team offers, when needed:

* support when the child goes to nursery or school
* support finding an early years setting for children with complex needs
* key worker service for families who require additional support
* support accessing additional funding

**Contact:**

Dr Jane McKie Educational Psychologist

Shahenaz Shaikh Senior Portage Home visitor

Sharon McNicholas Senior Child Care Inclusion Officer

Lynda Raddings Portex Teacher

Sharon Jagger Portex Teacher

**Intended client group:** Families of children with additional needs, and settings who support them, e.g. Playgroups, Private Day Nurseries, after school club or childminder.

**Phone number:** 01924 483744

**Email address: -**

**Website:**

**Address:** Educational Psychology and Early Years, Westtown Centre, Boothroyd Green, Dewsbury WF13 2RQ

**Main Contact:** see above

**Further Information: -**