

# Lancashire Ethnic Minority and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Achievement Service Newsletter

School of Sanctuary | Community Engagement | English as Additional language Mark | Inclusion of GRT communities

**Spring 2019**

## **Congratulations to three new Lancashire Schools of Sanctuary**

In January 2019 we celebrated three new schools in Lancashire becoming a School of Sanctuary, a special status awarded for developing a culture of acceptance and support.

The schools were presented with a certificate in recognition of their achievement at a presentation ceremony by Steve Belbin (Head of Service, School Improvement Service) and Jeff Morgan (The City of Sanctuary National Trustee in the North West) on behalf of the National City of Sanctuary movement and Lancashire County Council.

**The new Schools of Sanctuary are: Holy Family Catholic Primary School in Preston, Dallas Road Community Primary School in Lancaster and Earby Springfield Primary.**

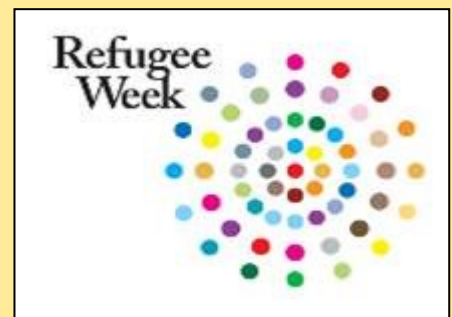


Schools awarded this status help pupils, staff, parents and the wider community understand what it means to be seeking sanctuary. They also extend a welcome to everyone as equal, valued members of the school community. All the schools have an induction programme for newly arrived children and a buddy system that meet needs of seeking sanctuary children is in place. They have welcoming displays around their school which help new arrivals to settle in.

**(Continued over page)**

## **GET SET FOR REFUGEE WEEK! 17-23 JUNE 2019**

Refugee Week is celebrated every year around the world to promote an understanding of why people seek sanctuary. The theme of Refugee Week 2019, '**You, me and those who came before**', is an invitation to explore the lives of refugees – and those who have welcomed them – throughout the generations.



**Contact Us** Ethnic Minority and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Achievement

**Telephone** 01772 532429

**Email** [ema.support@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:ema.support@lancashire.gov.uk)

## Schools of Sanctuary: What did the schools do?

**Dallas Road Primary, Lancaster** prepare their children to be ambassadors for School of Sanctuary in their classes and are in the process of publishing a Dallas Road International cook book of favourite recipes.

**Earby Springfield Primary School** are very strong on sharing their culture with the community. They performed Dabkeh (an Arab folk dance) at the Pendle Schools' Festival. It was the first time in the history of the Festival that there had been a performance in a different language.

At **Holy Family Catholic Primary School in Preston**, pupils and staff show consideration to everyone joining the school and get to learn about their culture and language. Negative myths surrounding refugees and asylum seekers have also been dispelled in these schools. Each school engages in positive and enthusiastic activities involving their own pupils and parents, and others from all over the world.



We hope that there will be many more schools in the future being able to demonstrate the ethos of fostering a welcome environment to all new arrivals and being keen to be recognised as a place of sanctuary.

Our service can help your school to achieve this. We can support the school with staff training and awareness around asylum/refugee issues and EAL aspects, signpost with local community members and organisations supporting inclusiveness and connect your school with another school who can help you through the process.

Please contact [izabela.zalewska-ratajczak@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:izabela.zalewska-ratajczak@lancashire.gov.uk) if you would like help in developing a School of sanctuary initiative at your school.

## Time Out for Parents – Dads.....

Is a community based project specifically working with dads to increase confidence, improve relationships, explore behavior strategies and provide support.

Open to all dads, the sessions currently run at Stoneyholme Community Primary School in Burnley on Thursday mornings from 9am to 11:30am.

If you would like to run similar projects in your school please contact:

Apu Chowdhury, Community Education Liaison Officer

Mobile: 07771338879

Email:

[apu.chowdhury@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:apu.chowdhury@lancashire.gov.uk)



## **Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Achievement:** **Service Challenge Delivery**

In December 2018 Cabinet approved a series of savings proposals which included the proposal to declare surplus the GRT sites which would reduce the budget running costs of £0.131M each year spent on the sites.

The County Council's proposal is to undertake a consultation exercise with all residents on site whilst also engaging with the City Councils / Borough Councils who manage the sites for us on a day to day basis.

It is hoped that this consultation exercise will take place in the first week in April 2019 which will give the residents the opportunity to comment upon the proposals.

This may impact on families and children attending your school. Should you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact Gary Jones Principal Estates Surveyor on 01772 533864 [gary.jones@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:gary.jones@lancashire.gov.uk).



## **Save the date!** **June 2019** **Gypsy Roma and Traveller History Month**



This is a way of raising awareness of these communities and their contributions to society, and to offset negative stereotyping and prejudices. If you would like to celebrate GRTHM this June, we would love to hear from you, and assist you in planning and delivering your events.

For advice, suggestions, and support please contact:

[ema.support@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:ema.support@lancashire.gov.uk)



## **Multicultural Activity Days**

*"Brilliant, pupils really enjoyed it."  
"Children have learnt a lot in a short time"*

Have you seen our new leaflet on our website?

[http://www.lancsngfl.ac.uk/projects/ema/index.php?category\\_id=167](http://www.lancsngfl.ac.uk/projects/ema/index.php?category_id=167)





# Royal Cross Primary School Awarded the Lancashire EAL Mark

Congratulations to Royal Cross Primary School for the Deaf in Preston, who were awarded the Lancashire EAL Mark in Autumn Term.

Royal Cross have a diverse community attending their school who travel from all over Lancashire. Developing language and communication was already a huge part of their practice at school and something they were already very skilled in. On their website, they say, "We believe 'communication is the key' to success and everything we do is geared towards developing language and communication skills."

**"Communication is Key"**

They have been developing their practice in school to ensure they celebrate and represent the background of all cultures in school. This included auditing the books and resources they had in school and celebrating children's cultures and languages through displays and assemblies.

As one of our Lancashire EAL Mark schools, it is possible to visit the school to see how they support their pupils. This might be particularly useful if you have a child who is



EAL and SEN in your school.

Please contact us if you are interested in visiting so we can arrange a date that is convenient for both parties.



Across the county there are 4 more Lancashire EAL Mark schools so if you are interested in seeing good practice for EAL (including developing language across the curriculum, developing vocabulary, Talk Boost Interventions and a Talk for Writing Approach), please get in touch.

We currently have both primary and secondary schools working towards the Lancashire EAL Mark. If you would like to find out more about this award or sign your school, please contact us on the email below:

**Email** [ema.support@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:ema.support@lancashire.gov.uk)

## CONTACTS FOR PREVENT CONCERNS

There are two teams of locally based Prevent Officers covering the whole of Lancashire who work with communities and our partners. They can be contacted using the following details:

**East Division:** (Blackburn, Burnley, Hyndburn, Ribble Valley, Pendle & Rossendale)

**Telephone: 01254 353541/ 91**

Sgt Katherine McIntyre: [Kathryn.McIntyre@lancashire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Kathryn.McIntyre@lancashire.pnn.police.uk)

**West & South Division:** Preston, Lancaster, Skelmersdale, Blackpool etc.)

**Telephone: 01772 209733 / 830**

Sgt James Neale: [James.Neale@lancashire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:James.Neale@lancashire.pnn.police.uk)

**This Safeguarding Team of the Counter Terrorism Branch (CTB) : 01772 413029**

Team led by D/Sgt 1436 Maxine Monks / Email: [concern@lancashire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:concern@lancashire.pnn.police.uk)

Please contact any of the above if you have a concern, are unsure whether you need to make a Channel referral or want to discuss an open case. We are happy to help, discuss and guide you. Remember it's got to be a Prevent/Channel concern i.e. there is a worry around radicalisation or extremism or potential for the same.

If out of hours and you have a concern that you feel needs **urgent action** then please consider the telephone numbers below and ask that Counter Terrorism Branch are informed.

Police Emergency 999 / Police non-emergency 101 / Anti-Terrorism Hotline 0800 789 321

**Remember, it's just safeguarding ...**

## Why attend an EMA Study Centre? Syeda's Story

I have been attending the study centre in Burnley for over ten years. The brilliant members of staff have specialisms in Maths, Science, English and a variety of other subjects such as Modern Foreign Languages and Design Technology. The study centre allowed me to develop my academic skills as well as make new friends along the way. The study centre raised my aspirations and allowed me and my siblings to exceed our expectations. Along the way I received mentoring support especially when I was finding things difficult in my personal life. The study centre gave me confidence and the belief that I can be whatever I want to be. As a result of the support I received I am now studying A Level Sociology, Psychology and Law at Nelson & Colne College and achieved 3 As in my exams and am planning to go to university next year to study law.

Syeda Begum (Nelson & Colne College)

**To find out about Study centres near to your school, please contact:**

[Ema.support@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:Ema.support@lancashire.gov.uk)

## DON'T FORGET TO REFER EAL PUPILS FOR YOUR FREE VISIT

Our service offers funded advice visits for all international new arrivals, including asylum seekers and refugees, which are free to schools.



To arrange support, please complete the referral form under EAL on the schools' portal.

# One in Ten

*"The most common reason for the reluctance to send Gypsy, Traveller and Roma children to school is the prevalence of racist bullying, which can range from generalised abuse to physical attacks. Nearly 9 out of every 10 children and young people from a Gypsy, Roma or Traveller background have suffered racial abuse and nearly two thirds have also been bullied or physically attacked.*

*Evidence suggests that where Gypsy and Traveller pupils do transfer successfully to secondary school, their attendance is unlikely to continue beyond the age of 14."*

(Anglia Ruskin University report, Gypsy, Traveller and Roma: Experts by Experience, 2015, <https://goo.gl/yCtasb>)

The reality for some Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children and young people living in Lancashire today is that they expect to be bullied when they go to school.

Children grow up hearing their parents, siblings and cousins talking about their experiences of bullying in school and from their first day they expect to be the subject of name calling, abuse and even assaults. Because of this, often the first negative incident they experience simply confirms their expectations and sets them up for a lifetime of feeling marginalised and picked on in their school environment.

This might seem like an impossible dilemma for teachers new to working with GRT pupils, but the great news is that there are lots of teachers in Lancashire right now who have successfully overcome the hurdles and made sure that GRT pupils feel welcome, supported and above all valued within their schools, and who go on to enjoy school and achieve excellent results at the end. We went out to speak to families across Lancashire who had some examples for us of what their schools were doing right to ensure their children enjoyed school and didn't feel that they were one of the 9 out of 10. Names have been changed, but the words and examples are real:

**Elizabeth Kent:** *"One of my boys is in year 7, and he came home last week saying that two girls had been shouting "Gypsy" at him, and saying that he didn't pay taxes and was a thief. I rang the school, and they were shocked when I told them. They told me it would be dealt with immediately. Then they rang me back the next day and told me that the two girls had been put in isolation, and asked if I was happy with that, or if I would like to take the matter further. I know it's not the children, it comes from the parents, but it's great to know the school take this seriously, and that they told me what they'd done and made sure I was happy!"*

If you need support or advice on including and welcoming GRT communities or educating children and young people or staff about this group, please contact us.



**Diane McCarthy:** *"When I first come off the roadside, and moved onto a site I knew nothing about school. I had about 2 weeks of school me whole life but I wanted me kids to do better than me. I was scared of the head teacher because I remember mine yelling at me and sitting me at the back, but the head teacher at me children's school was lovely. She came out to see me every day when I picked the kids up, and she brought me into the school to see what they did. She asked my advice on how the school could show Travellers in their displays, and what my kids would like to see of their own culture in lessons. I properly felt like the school wanted me and me children there, and the children love it. Travellers are scared of the schools, and when the schools bend over backwards to make you feel like they want you and your kids there you trust them and want your kids*



## ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE NETWORKS FOR SCHOOLS

We hold termly cluster meetings for EAL co-ordinators that provide guidance on good practice, give policy updates and serve as an opportunity to raise concerns, seek advice and network with other EAL staff.

### EAL Cluster Meetings March 2019

#### Focus: Developing Reading for EAL Learners

The focus for this term's meeting is Developing Reading for EAL Learners at schools. We will look at the challenges for EAL learners and how these can be overcome. To book a place: <https://lccsecure.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/questionnaires/runQuestionnaire.asp?qid=774735>

#### Time : 2:45—4:15pm

|                               |  |                              |
|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Primary and Secondary Central | Moor Park School,<br>Preston, PR1 6DT                | High Monday<br>18 March 2019 |
| Primary and Secondary East    | Peel Park Primary<br>Accrington, BB5 6QR             | Tuesday<br>19 March 2019     |
| Primary and Secondary North   | Bowerham Community Primary<br>Lancaster, LA1 4BS     | Tuesday<br>19 March 2019     |
| Primary and Secondary East    | Marsden Heights Community College<br>Nelson, BB9 0PR | Thursday<br>21 March 2019    |

### Research update: English as an Additional language, Proficiency in English and pupils' educational achievement—Steve Strand (2018)

New research highlights how varied EAL learners are and how they have a vast range of language skills.

Its main recommendation is to assess pupils English when they arrive in UK education and providing tailored language support. This will help them access the curriculum and achieve their potential.

It also urges schools to continue to assess the English Language proficiency of their EAL learners.

For more detail, visit: <https://www.bell-foundation.org.uk/news/research-provides-evidence-on-why-the-department-for-education-should-reintroduce-the-proficiency-in-english-scale/>



## ETHNIC MINORITY ACHIEVEMENT TRAINING FOR SCHOOLS

We run a program of courses for school staff in conjunction with LDPS. There are courses for all key stages and staff groups. Please click on the link below to book.

**96.4% rate our courses as 5 out of 6 or above.**

To book on these courses go to <https://lccsecure.lancashire.gov.uk/lpds/courses.asp?subject=EAL>

## 2019 Courses

Using Talk Boost KS1 Intervention to Boost Children's Language Skills 13th February 2019

Getting EAL Parents and Children Reading Together 27th February 2019

Using Early Talk Boost Intervention to boost Children's Language Skills 7th March 2019

Equality Network Meeting Focus: Gender Equality 13th March 2019

Closing The Word Gap: A Whole School Approach to Developing Vocabulary in English and Across the Curriculum 24th April 2019

Developing Language for Learning 1st May 2019

Supporting EAL children in Pre-school and Reception Classes 9th May 2019

Developing Language for EAL students Across all Subjects—KS3 and KS4 23rd May 2019

### Contact Us

Ethnic Minority and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Achievement

County Hall, Preston, PR1 0LD

### Website

[www.lancsngfl.ac.uk/projects/ema](http://www.lancsngfl.ac.uk/projects/ema)

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