

Ethnic Minority Service

(formally Home Language Support Service)

What is Inspire?

Inspire is a new service delivered by Southampton City Council, offering a range of training and educational services to schools, colleges and early years.

Contact

For More information about this service please contact

023 8083 3072

For other information about Inspire and its other Services please contact

023 8083 3480

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or visit

www.southampton.gov.uk/inspire

This written information is available on request in other formats or languages. Please contact 023 8083 3078 for help.



Ethnic Minority Service

The Ethnic Minority Service offers a service where Bilingual Assistants can support access to the curriculum and home, using their first /home language.

We work in partnership with schools to meet the needs of bilingual learners and ethnic minority pupils at the risk of underachieving.

The service also offers training and advice on how to make education more inclusive and provide cultural talks and Language taster sessions in schools.

Benefits of service

Raising the achievement of ethnic minority pupils

Inclusion of all pupils

Training and sharing good practice

Providing advice, resources and guidance

Supporting home/school communication

What you can expect

The Ethnic Minority Service to schools, children and young people, parents, community groups and other agencies includes:

- working directly with schools and children
- bilingual assistance for curriculum access and pastoral support
- assessment of pupils' language/ learning needs
- support for promoting home-school links
- training and advice
- activities & resources to promote cultural diversity
- cultural and religious background information and advice.

Who is it for?

Support is available for all pupils for whom English is not the language of home, both those newly arrived in this country and those born here.

This could include children of asylum seekers and refugees enrolled in school and other ethnic minority pupils experiencing difficulty as a result of their language background.

More about the service and the assistance

The service offers bilingual support in 17 different languages. The bilingual assistants work in the classroom using their first language to support bilingual pupils.

All contracted bilingual assistants are offered 1:1 supervision and support and access to training.

Sessions for Bilingual support need to be for 2 hours or 3 hour blocks over at least half a term.

Training packages will be worked out through careful discussion and planning with senior management, sessions can be tailored to meet specific schools situations-delivered by a qualified teacher.

Recommendations from previous users

Margaret Bradley Banister Infant (head)

Ethnic Minority Service (formerly known as Home Language support service) is a very good resource for schools to use to improve the progress and attainment of EAL learners. The bilingual assistants are skilled at supporting the children in the classrooms, supporting teachers in their understanding of their needs of EAL pupils and supporting parents in understanding the expectations of English education.

Debbie Loveridge-St Marks Junior School (Ethnic Minority Coordinator)

I have been impressed with how hard working and committed the Ethnic Minority Service (formerly known as the Home Language Support Service) have been in supporting our school. The Bilingual assistants work effectively alongside English as an additional children, staff and parents. The knowledge and understanding they have brought to the classroom has had a positive impact on the children's self confidence and attitude to learning across all areas of the curriculum.