



Protocol between Ethnic Minority and Travellers Achievement Service (EMTAS) and Children in Care (CinC) area teams and Team for the Education of Children in Care (TECiC) with respect to provision for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UCSA)

September 2009

Context

EMTAS supports asylum seekers following admission to school on the same basis as all other bilingual learners eg up to 10 hours support, new arrival conferencing on support strategies, resources, guidance on web, parental involvement if appropriate.

In quite a few cases in recent years EMTAS has supported the admissions process working with the Admissions team to ensure In Year Fair Access protocol is implemented, particularly for Unaccompanied Children Seeking Asylum (UCSA), especially where joint school/college provision is appropriate.

With the new CinC area teams in place EMTAS will largely drop out of the admissions process and focus on supporting young asylum seekers in school. Service staff can continue to provide advice and guidance on admissions and interpreting and translation however.

What EMTAS staff will do

- Arrange a meeting with senior management and/or person with day to day role in relation to the young person eg person with responsibility for children in care, a Head of Year or Learning Support at the start of an UCSA's time in school
- Provide access to guidance including 'Welcome to Hampshire' for young people themselves (in English, Farsi and Pashto, Arabic and Sorani Kurdish), resources and arrange support
- Provide conferencing for school staff if needed
- Provide up to additional 10 hours total support for each UCSA (using Standards Fund)
- Contribute to CLASP as appropriate
- Liaise with CinC staff to contribute to reviews if appropriate
- Monitor provision for asylum seekers in schools
- Monitor achievement of asylum seekers
- Can help with interpreting and translation
- Can support applications using CAP if needed
- Can report on SWIFT as appropriate (but need access to SWIFT)

What EMTAS staff needs from CinC teams and TECiC

- Referral from CinC team and TECiC when asylum seeker arrives in Hampshire
- Liaison with CinC team and TECiC re eg contribution to statutory reviews

Principles

- UCSA should not have to wait for definitive age assessment before being admitted to school
- In Year Fair Access should be applied if necessary
- Connexions needs to be involved as soon as young person admitted to school in the case of Year 11s, referred straight away and seen within a term of being admitted in the case of Year 9s and 10s to allow settling time.
- It should not be assumed that English is a pre-requisite for learning
- Full timetable or negotiated nearly full timetable (eg gap for Year 9 French if summer term entry with other support provided) is essential
- Schools may be able to claim for and spend £500.00 per term of Schools Forum money to reduce barriers to learning for UCSA as they are Children in Care. Spending of this money should be accounted for eg in Personal Education Plan (PEP)

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