

10 December 2020

TITLE OF REPORT: De-Delegation – Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service

Purpose of the Report

To provide Schools Forum with an update on the work delivered by EMTAS since September 2019 so they can consider de-delegation for the financial year 2021-22.

Background

The Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service (EMTAS) have continued to offer a range of services to Gateshead schools and settings to develop their capacity to support the educational achievement of all ethnic minority and Traveller pupils. This includes providing assessment, advice and support for refugees, asylum seekers and children and young people placed through the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Programme.

In the last year Gateshead has again seen a steady rise in the number of Ethnic Minority (EM) and Gypsy Roma and Traveller (GRT) children attending our schools; up from 12.1%% (January Census 2019) to 12.78% (January Census 2020).

The Census data shows that 8.16% of pupils are identified as having a first language that is other than English (up from 7.76% January Census 2019), with over 90 different languages spoken as first language. The highest recorded numbers continue to be Polish, Arabic, Kurdish and Chinese.

EMTAS worked with the Data and SIMS teams to produce a standard data collection form which was adopted by some schools. Analysis once again indicated inconsistencies in data collection and coding that affects the accuracy of the statistics. These have been followed up with individual settings to offer guidance and improve accuracy of information provided.

The service consists of:

- Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) (FTE 0.5) who supports educational outcomes for pupils from Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities
- Equality and Diversity staff member (FTE 0.2) who supports wider issues including community cohesion, monitoring and responding to reported hate incidents
- Three English as an Additional Language (EAL) specialist teachers (FTE 2.0)
- Two bilingual/EAL specialists (FTE 1.5)
- An EAL Inclusion Officer has been appointed on a fixed-term year's contract and will be in post in January 2021. The post-holder will work alongside colleagues in EMTAS and Education Support Service to provide additional support for families with EAL to engage with education. Feedback by Headteachers identified EAL as an additional barrier to engagement/access to learning during

lockdown. It is proposed that the post-holder will be based in those schools with the highest proportion of families with EAL.

September 2019-October 2020

Primary maintained mainstream schools have access to the Core Service:

- Assessment of language skills for pupils with EAL
- Advice, guidance and support for pupils with EAL or from GRT communities
- Support for school EAL lead
- Guidance for whole school EAL audit and development
- Access to training
- Access to advice and training on anti-racism, faith, cultural and community cohesion and integration

Academies and special schools can buy into these services, and Primary schools can access additional support through an SLA.

Mainstream maintained primary schools with more than 20% EAL pupils accessed weekly visits from EMTAS specialist; alongside the EAL lead they agree on how best to support the school in meeting the needs of their pupils. 12 schools access this support.

Since September 2020 the team has offered virtual consultations and meetings to schools, with visits booked to deliver essential services including assessments and support for individuals.

Mainstream maintained primary schools with less than 20% EAL pupils use the referral form to request the core Services.

Between September 2019 and March 2020:

- 26 schools made referrals for advice and support
- A further 23 training sessions were delivered to Teaching Assistants, Teachers, and whole staff in 19 Primary and Secondary settings
- Training was also delivered centrally for Gateshead school staff, including joint training with Literacy Consultants
- The drop-in session for Secondary age pupils who are home educated moved to Felling Library
- Three Secondary schools and Academies have an SLA with EMTAS for weekly visits; others buy-in to the service for assessment and advice sessions
- Headteachers and EAL leads have access to information and resources are on the EGHub, a secure website.
- Resources specific to the potential impact of COVID-19 on families with EAL were developed and shared with settings

Resources and training are now being shared and delivered on-line and on-going communication is via Teams, phone calls and emails.

A member of the team attends the multi-agency Hate Crime meetings and provides advice and guidance to schools around hate incidents and other issues. The reporting of hate incidents has moved to an on-line system and there are indications that more schools are now reporting incidents.

Multicultural, faith awareness, hate incident activities and advice have been delivered in 10 schools to both students and to staff, together with training for student teachers in three institutions.

Staff attend Fair Access Panel and Pupil Placement Panel meetings and provide assessment, advice and support for children and young people placed through these processes.

EMTAS continue to deliver training and guidance to staff and students at Northumbria and Newcastle Universities, and remote training is now being delivered for Universities and for SCITT students.

EMTAS are part of the Naldic Special Interest group (National Association for Language Development in the Curriculum) attending and hosting Regional meetings.

Proposal

To enable EMTAS to continue to provide these services to the schools, children and young people in Gateshead it is proposed that schools de-delegate funding.

The de-delegation model is more closely linked to English as an Additional Language (EAL) funding. EAL funding was increased from £260.00 per pupil for 3 years to £430.00 per pupil for 3 years in 2018/19 and has continued to rise each subsequent year. The 2021/22 factor values are not yet known, however it is anticipated that they will be at National Funding Formula level of £550 per EAL child and increase of £15 from 2020/21,

It is therefore proposed to maintain the de-delegation levels from 2018/19 of £3.00 for all maintained mainstream primary school pupils with an additional amount of £245.00 for each primary EAL pupil. It is anticipated that the patterns of funding and de-delegation will be similar to the years from 2018/19.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Schools Forum notes the work undertaken by EMTAS to support the educational achievement of all ethnic minority and Traveller pupils in Gateshead schools, and approves the de-delegation of funding for EMTAS at the rates of £3.00 for every maintained mainstream primary pupil and £245.00 for each primary maintained mainstream EAL pupil.

For the following reasons:

To note the work undertaken by EMTAS to support the educational achievement of all ethnic minority and Traveller pupils in Gateshead schools

To approve funding for the service to enable them to support children and schools in Gateshead.