

Item 6**TITLE OF REPORT: De-Delegation Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service (EMTAS)**

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Schools Forum with an update on the background and service delivered by EMTAS since January 2023 when it became part of Education Support Service so they can consider de-delegation for the financial year 2024-5.

Background

2. The Service consists of:
 - Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTA) (FTE 1.84) one of whom supports educational outcomes for pupils from Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) communities and another who is multi-lingual;
 - 2 x Bi-Lingual Specialist (FTE 1.54);
 - Up until 31st August 2023 the Service had an Equality and Diversity Officer (FTE 0.2) who supported wider themes including community cohesion and monitoring and responding to hate crimes. This post is currently vacant.
3. The core Service offer is:
 - Assessment of language skills for pupils with English as an additional language.
 - Targeted support for pupils with English as an additional language or from Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.
 - Where appropriate, advise on English as an additional language development, good practice and specific provision for underachieving children that fall within the remit of EMTAS service.
 - Work with school staff to devise and implement teaching strategies that provide support and practice in talking, listening, reading and writing skills.
 - Support colleagues to develop their knowledge of the linguistic and cultural backgrounds of children and their families that fall within the scope of the EMTAS service.
4. Funding for the Service is through de-delegation and is available to all mainstream maintained Primary schools. Academies and special schools can buy into the services, and primary schools can access additional support through a Service Level Agreement (SLA).

5. January 2023 census data shows that Gateshead has again seen a rise in the number of ethnic minority and Gypsy Roma and Traveller children attending our schools: up from 14.08% (January census 2022) to 15.46% (January census 2023). The most recent census equates to 4251 pupils out of a total of 27494 pupils.
6. Although there is an overall ethnic minority and Gypsy, Roma, Traveller % of 15.46 (January census 2023) there are wide variations between individual schools. The lower limit being 2.82% of pupil population up to 71.56% of pupil population. Every school now has more than one pupil who identifies as belonging to an ethnic minority. As in previous years, the schools with the highest percentages of pupils from an ethnic minority background are those towards the centre of the borough.
7. The single largest ethnic group after white British remains white east European. This is followed by mixed white and Asian and for the first time other black African and then black Nigerian.

	January census 2022 pupil totals	January census 2023 pupil totals
White East European	495	489
Mixed white and Asian	286	284
Other black African	207	276
Black Nigerian	156	245

8. The number of pupils from a Gypsy, Roma or Traveller background continues to fall (37 pupils January census 2023 from 41 pupils January census 2022). The highest numbers of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils are in Kelvin Grove, Caedmon and Kingsmeadow. However, a total of 14 schools, including four secondaries and two special schools, have pupils from a Gypsy, Roma and Traveller background.
9. The census data shows an increase of pupils identified as having a first language that is other than English from 9.12% (January census 2022) to 10.29% (January census 2023). This equates to 2,829 pupils in the January 2023 census (2,507 pupils January 2022). There are at least 101 different languages spoken as a first (or home) language. The most common languages spoken are all dialects of Arabic, followed by Polish, Kurdish and Chinese.

	January census 2022 pupil totals	January census 2023 pupil totals
All dialects of Arabic	327	342
Polish	327	312
Kurdish	223	252
Chinese	121	127
British sign language	3	6

Languages appearing for the first time in the January 2023 census are Tswana/Setswana from South Africa (one speaker) and Ukrainian (32 speakers). The January 2023 census also shows we no longer have any speakers of Krio (Sierra Leone) or Sindhi (Pakistan) in our schools.

January 2023-October 2023

10. From May 2023 EMTAS have offered assessment, advice and support to pupils who are asylum seekers from the Embassy Hotel and those arriving through home office refugee programmes: ARAP, UKRS and HfrUK for up to 4 weeks. Between May and July 2023 EMTAS supported approximately 15 of these pupils.
11. Mainstream maintained primary schools with more than 20% EAL pupils have ongoing contact with an allocated EMTAS officer. The Service are currently supporting 11 schools in this way. Mainstream maintained primary schools with less than 20% EAL pupils use the referral form to request the core services.
12. Since recording referrals into the Service, we have received approximately 80 for advice and support up to until October half term 2023.
13. Over the period 2 secondary academies and one maintained Secondary have maintained an annual SLA with the Service. A further four primary academies have bought into the service level agreement.
14. Headteachers and EAL leads have access to information and resources on the educationGateshead Hub and work is progressing to develop a more sharply focused set of assessment tools from KS1-KS4. The team are also developing a network across the local area.
15. A member of the Education Support Service, in which EMTAS sits, continues to monitor and offer advice and guidance to schools around hate incidents. These are reported via a dedicated section of the Council's on-line system.
16. EMTAS remain part of the National Association for Language Development in the Curriculum (NALDIC) and attend the northeast regional interest group meetings.
17. EMTAS has assessed twenty-five students to access GCSE and GCE qualifications in their heritage language. 16 of the 25 students met the threshold to access exams in 9 languages and were supported by the EMTAS through this process.

Language GCSE	Grade 5+	Grade
Arabic	5	
Greek	1	
Italian	1	
Persian/Farsi	3	
Portuguese	1	
Russian	1	
Spanish	2	
Thai	1	
GCE 'A' Level Greek	1	C

Proposal

18. To enable EMTAS to continue to provide these services to schools, children and young people in Gateshead it is proposed that schools de-delegate funding.
19. The de-delegation model is more closely linked to English as an Additional Language funding. This funding to schools could increase for 2024-25 and the factor value could be £590 per English as an additional language pupil and increase to £10 from 2023-24.
20. It is 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 £260 for each primary English as an additional language pupil, an increase of £10 from 2023/24.
21. These levels of de-delegation have been calculated on the basis that all primary schools both maintained, and academy schools buy into this service.

Recommendations

22. It is recommended that Schools Forum notes the work undertaken by EMTAS to support the educational achievement of ethnic minority and Gypsy, Roma, Traveller pupils in Gateshead schools and approves the de-delegation of funding for EMTAS at the rates of £3 for every maintained mainstream pupil and £260 for each primary maintained mainstream English as an additional language pupil.

For the following reasons:

23. To note the work undertaken by EMTAS to support the educational achievement of ethnic minority and Gypsy, Roma, Traveller pupils in Gateshead schools.
24. To approve funding for the Service to enable them to continue to support pupils and schools in Gateshead.

CONTACT: Julie McDowell