

WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL SCHOOLS FORUM 1st October 2014

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Minority Ethnic Achievement Service Update

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Schools Forum has de-delegated EAL Funding for 2014-15 to allow a central Minority Ethnic Achievement Service (MEAS) to be provided to all maintained Primary and Secondary schools. This report provides an outline of MEAS activity for the 2013-14 academic year and proposed priorities for 2014-15.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Key elements of the Wirral MEAS offer include:

1. Assessment of newly arrived pupils who are learning English as an Additional Language (EAL).
2. Advice and support for schools and settings on meeting the needs of EAL pupils provided by a team of expert EAL staff
3. EAL support networks for school staff
4. EAL, black and minority ethnic (BME), Race and cultural awareness training provided centrally by specialist staff
5. Bespoke support for schools
6. Resources to support EAL learners
7. EAL HUB schools who can provide advice and support on EAL for schools and contribute to training programmes
8. Services provided by MEAS in partnership with organizations and community groups

Priorities for MEAS team 2014-15

1. Focus on support needed to support pupils at all stages, identifying priority groups- inc EYFS and KS1 EAL learners to ensure they achieve their full potential
2. Promoting the service and the services offered as widely as possible – to Engage all schools, including selling services as needed
3. Increasing the range of staff in schools trained to effectively support EAL/BME pupils
4. Develop the skills of MEAS staff and areas where services can be extended / Develop the role of TAs /Develop new approaches to engaging with families of early years pupils
5. Respond to new opportunities and challenges - Develop international school links / Develop support for families new to Wirral
6. Partnership working - Develop shared training activities with other Authorities / Monitor services offered to schools in partnership to ensure schools receive standards of service
7. Support schools to address racist incidents and promote race equality and spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) in schools

2.2 MEAS budget for the financial year

	2014-15	
Staffing	207,368	Paid through Children's Centre budget
1 Manager (0.4)		
3 Consultant Teachers		
2.6 Teaching Assistants		
2 Bilingual Project Officers (BPO)		
Resources	6,332	
Transport	1,700	
Supplies		
Hub Schools	27,000	
Partner staffing	5,000	
Contributions	6,700	
Recharges	5,900	
Total	260,000	

3. EAL/BME achievements 2013-14 (see appendix 1)

- **EYFS** % Achieving expected learning goals – 50.4% of EAL and 61.6% BME achieved a Good Level of Development compared to 62.9 % Wirral average.
Some groups of EAL pupils, with little English at home, achieve less in communication and other areas at this stage.
- **Yr 1** Phonics tests 85% EAL and 85% BME children met the required standard compared with Wirral average 76%
- **KS1** EAL pupils (139 numbers steadily increasing (118 in 2012/13) gaps have narrowed and EAL and BME pupils achieved well

	EAL% L2+	BME%	Wirral average %
Reading	87.8	90.8	88.7
Writing	86.3	88.1	85.8
Maths	93.5	93.2	91.4
Speaking and listening	85.6	90.5	89.6

- **At KS2**

	EAL% L4+	BME% L4+	Wirral average %
Reading	88.5	92.2	89.6
Writing TA	86.7	89.6	85.3
Maths	88.5	89.6	85.9
RWM	82.3	84.0	78.3

There is a trend of improvement in reading and writing

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Schools Forum note MEAS activity for 2013-14
2. Schools Forum receive regular updates on MEAS activity

Julia Hassall
Director of Children's Services

Appendix 1 MEAS Evaluation

Wirral Minority Ethnic Achievement Service Summary of Activity and Impact 2013-14

1 Coverage

Number of schools and settings supported

	Number			
Schools supported by consultants	118			
Schools with TA training/ support	40			
Schools supported by BPOs	59			
People attending central training	89			
Schools with staff trained in school	54			
Total number of schools supported	Primary 99	Secondary 19	Special 11	Total 129
Early Years Settings supported by BPOs	21			

OFSTED

'Specialist help such as from the local authority helps to ensure pupils that speak English as an additional language do well' St Anne's 2014

2 MEAS support for schools 2013-14

Training and support for school staff held in schools

included Raising Awareness of EAL pupils - new arrivals and the advanced bilingual learner

"The excellent resources modelled to help all children, not only EAL children"

"Clear, concise information presented with enthusiasm"

"Massive amount of ideas for developing the curriculum with international focus for whole school"

Challenging racism workshops for staff and pupils

"Many students have had no or little experience of different cultures and are often reluctant to respect viewpoints other than their own. The 'Challenging Racism' workshop today has encouraged students to consider issues around racism and to challenge racist stereotypes."

Multicultural workshops run by MEAS in schools & settings

"The pupils particularly appreciated the moral teaching behind the story and the visual aids/artefacts, which enhanced their learning. Children were able to retell the story in an assembly later in the week using the visual aids. Children have now written their own tales using the modelled story presented to them. They will be sharing these with younger children."

"It enabled the children to see how other cultures aside from our own can be celebrated. They learnt how although cultures can be very different we can appreciate the similarities as well as the differences to our own culture. "

TA Support for schools and training for school support staff

97% of staff supported stated that the support from MEAS TAs was excellent.

“This programme should be automatically put in place for any school staff not trained in EAL. Advice and resources were so valuable for the children I was working with. Trainer was excellent” Black Horse Hill Infants

“I have learnt so much watching TA interacting with a child (was selective mute), he has turned into a confident active boy. I have used many of the activities and resources with other children and will continue to do so” Greasby Juniors

“Wow! What a fantastic project this was! Really organised and enthusiastic with the children – a great example. A great display was produced to demonstrate all the hard work carried out. A wonderful, informative experience, for the children.” Barnston

Central Training:

MEAS delivered 52 training courses centrally last academic year. Staff attended from primary, secondary school and Early years setting from across Wirral. 93% of respondents thought that the central MEAS training they attended was outstanding or good in meeting the stated objectives.

“An excellent overview of EAL, a whole world of information that has been very enlightening” School Governor

Some comments on knowledge and skills gained from the sessions:

EAL level 1- New Arrivals –

- Vocabulary, different methods of teaching English as a foreign language, repetition, group words and never take it for granted that children know things about England. Show cultural awareness
- Promoting their home language is essential for learning a second language
- How important pre teaching is and to try to get all school to do it. Plan with TA to pre teach pupils = confidence
- Information on resources available. Involve the rest of the class – teach them the language

Effective Liaison With Parents from the BME Community

- Really good, lots of information and presented in an interesting way

Using ICT to support EAL pupils

- How to include children in making dual language PowerPoints for various activities
- Making the story books using a PowerPoint. The value of digital story books and the impact it can have on the children

Motivating and Raising Achievement of BME and Dual Heritage Pupils

- Every meeting provides a wealth of information/resources from the MEAS staff as well as other local schools. It is an excellent opportunity to share ideas and good practice
- Thank you for all your input over the past 18 months

Mosque Visits - Mosque visits benefitted the children in school (spiritual, moral, social and cultural development)

- It was beneficial for the children to see other children practising a different faith with greater understanding comes tolerance. The children enjoyed the experience of seeing all the things in the mosque for 'real' - not just on appointment
- There was a good link to the Speaking and Listening aspect of literacy, RE, PHSE and certainly to enhancing the social and cultural development of our children, which we feel is very important

Bilingual Project Officers (BPO)

140 families supported

More than 200 children supported

Supported more than 90 parents to be involved in learning activities

Evaluations from schools, settings, parents and partner organisations, thought that support given by BPO's was extremely useful.

Examples of feedback on BPO work

"Fantastic morning for F2 and yr 1 and 2 children. It has made a huge impact. The BPO is a great role model for parents." Egremont Primary

"Thanks for the great help to our family the BPO helped us to talk to our children's school and to arrange a nursery for our 2 year old. She also encouraged me to learn English and attend an ESOL class at the library. Because of MEAS I have a better knowledge of my area and British community" Parent Birkenhead

Community language GCSE

MEAS supported schools with GCSE community language exams for 10 pupils from yrs 8-11 in Polish and Greek 100% passed, 70% A & A*