

WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL SCHOOLS FORUM 29th April 2015

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Minority Ethnic Achievement Service Update

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Schools Forum has de-delegated EAL Funding for 2015-16 to allow a central Minority Ethnic Achievement Service (MEAS) to be provided to all maintained Primary schools. This service is also provided to Special Schools through Buyback and secondary schools and academies through an SLA. This report provides an outline of MEAS activity for the current academic year (September 2014 - April 2015)

2. BACKGROUND

Key elements of the Wirral MEAS offer include:

1. Assessment of new 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
9. Support with SMSC and Fundamental British values, this includes staff meetings and curriculum planning.

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 and Bilingual Project Officers/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 development (SMSC) in schools

3. MEAS budget for the financial year

| | 2014-15 | 2015-2016 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Staffing | | |
| 1 Manager (0.4) | 214,600 | 1 Interim Manager |
| 3 Consultant Teachers | | 2.6 consultants from September |
| 2.2 Teaching Assistants | | 2.2 Teaching assistants |
| 1.6 Bilingual project officers (BPO) | | 1.6 BPO posts |
| Resources | | |
| Supplies & transport | 8,100 | |
| Hub Schools | 25,100 | |
| Contributions | 6,700 | |
| Recharges | 5,900 | |
| Total | 260,400 | 244,600 |

Wirral Minority Ethnic Achievement Service Summary of Activity and Impact Sep 2014 - Apr 2015

4 Coverage

Number of schools and settings supported

| | Number | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Schools supported by consultants | 92 | | | |
| Schools with TA training/ support | 55 | | | |
| Schools supported by BPOs | 60 | | | |
| People attending central training | 142 | | | |
| People attending training in schools and settings | 326 | | | |
| | | | | |
| Total number of schools supported | Primary 89 | Secondary 11 | Special 5 | Total 105 |
| Early Years Settings supported by BPOs | 28 | | | |

OFSTED comments from schools with high involvement from MEAS:

"The school's support for new pupils and families for whom English is an additional language is of a high quality. Induction materials in a range of languages have been produced. This reflects the school's commitment to equality of opportunity for all pupils and families." **Bedford Drive January 2015**

"Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is strength of the school and prepares students very well for adult life in the wider world. Equality of opportunity for all is promoted exceptionally well" **Wirral Hospital Schools December 2014**

5 MEAS support for schools 2014-15

Training and support for school staff held in schools (including raising awareness of EAL)

"Positive impact and outcomes for children to socialize and communicate with peers, staff and the wider community. Impact on English language learning in terms of speaking, listening, reading and writing."

Cathcart St 17.12.14

"It provided me with the beginnings of a 'toolkit' to help an EAL learner in my class – as well as other learners too!" **Ladymount 21/11/14**

"This training has given me a great insight into the way EAL children can be supported." **St Georges 21.11.14**

"MEAS... a local authority service that helped us get our International schools award and that contributed towards our outstanding Ofsted result in relationship to PSHE." **Derek Kitchen (Wirral Hospitals Schools)**

"YOU have been an essential part of our success! Many thanks as ever. I don't know what I'd do without you to turn to for support and advice, Thanks so much for your help and advice yesterday; I appreciate your support so much, you do a fantastic job" **Helen O'loughlan (Wirral Hospital Schools)**

Training delivered in collaboration with Hub schools

- Talking Partners Intervention Programme with Egremont Primary school 7/10/14
- International School Award with Woodchurch Road 27/11/14
- EAL level 2 with Sacred Heart 15/1/15
- EAL in the Early Years Holy Spirit 22/1/15
- Alan Peat Strategies with Devonshire Park 28.01.15
- Grammar for Writing New Brighton Primary 12.2.15
- SEN & EAL with Portland Primary School 30.3.15

Challenging racism workshops for staff and pupils

Yr5/6 pupil comments:

"We learned about what to do when we see racism, what it is and how to report it."

"The activities and the DVD showed us what it was how to understand it."

"It made us aware that racism is bad and not to be racist."

"We don't believe everything we read in the newspapers."

"It made us realize that we need to think before speaking."

"The direct approach to dealing with racism is really effective. This is the one of the few opportunities the children have to voice their feelings in a safe and supportive environment." **Gilbrook Y6**

"The story was a great way to help address the differences the children may come across in life ... and they enjoyed the clear message." **Y4 Mendell Primary**

"Thank you very much for a very informative workshop which made the children challenge their own behaviour and the behaviour of others." **Y5 Holy Spirit School**

Multicultural workshops run by MEAS in schools & settings

"The children really enjoyed the session – especially all the 'hands-on' artefacts and costumes to dress up in. A real WOW afternoon." **Devonshire Park 16.12.14 – Ancient Egypt and storytelling**

"Absolutely brilliant. The children were mesmerized by artefacts and stories. Questions were answered in a meaningful way." **Thornton Hough Primary – Sep 2014**

"Very positive –has given the skills to implement into our school" **Woodchurch Road – Sep 14**

"Co-operation with MEAS is always very smooth and professional." **Egremont – 17/10/14**

"This was a wonderful morning. This style of structure to the sessions helps pupils develop their understanding of the diversity of Wirral. This will directly impact on their Citizenship/ PSHE/ RE/ Language profiles." **Hayfield**

TA Support for schools and training for school support staff

"MEAS is absolutely wonderful! I have been given a clear, informative guide, which has worked brilliantly."

Prenton High 16.10.14

"This training was excellent and very beneficial. Janet has a wide array of strategies and ideas for use at Ladymount." **Ladymount 10.11.14**

"A high impact: Anna worked with different children throughout the whole school. She raised awareness of different languages and cultures in our school and celebrated them. The children were engaged and came away with a positive message which they then spread throughout the school to their peers." **Greenleas 7/11/14**

Bilingual Project Officers (BPO)

From April 2015 the two bilingual project officer posts are funded by MEAS and as a result BPO staff can now be used across all age ranges and are not limited to foundation stage.

Since September: **84 families supported, more than 127 children supported, supported more than 29 parents to be involved in learning activities, delivered assemblies and workshops in more than 60 schools and 53 families supported during school parent meetings.** Evaluations from schools, settings, parents and partner organisations show that support given by BPOs was extremely useful.

Islamic workshops and assemblies

Very popular this year and the feedback evaluations are excellent from staff and pupils.

Pupil comments:

"We learned that being a Muslim is peaceful and not like the messages on the news." (Y6 girl)

"I liked seeing the hijab and seeing people try it on." (Y6 girl)

"I loved that they are different but not really different." (Y6 boy)

"Fantastic afternoon, full of information- questions the children wanted to know were all answered" **Hayfield 14/1/15**

"Great positive feedback from pupils and teachers following the assembly" **Liscard 2.2.15**

Sheema's honesty and integrity in answering some challenging questions about Islam and her personal experiences of being a Muslim. High level of impact –challenged some stereotypes that were firmly held by children." **Gilbrook 3.3.15**

Mosque Visits

Mosque visits benefitted the children in school (spiritual, moral, social and cultural development). 7 schools have been supported to visit Birkenhead mosque this year.

"The visit has supported our work on the Islamic faith and allowed children to put work into context."

Woodchurch CE March 2015

"A very valuable first-hand experience of a mosque and some of the main beliefs and rituals of Islam." **Wirral Hospitals' School 11/11/14**

Central Training: Some comments on knowledge and skills gained from the sessions:

Grammar and the English tense system

"Broadened my knowledge of the difficulties some children face when English isn't a first language."

Somerville 201/11/14

Leading provision for EAL

"As always this has been a fabulous course which has been extremely useful in developing my knowledge and skills" **Christchurch CE 21.10.14**

ICT and EAL Conference

"Fantastic ideas delivered well to take back for great practice." **St Joseph's Wallasey 13.10.14**

EAL training for Governors

"It was beneficial to discuss all aspects of supporting children with EAL. Relating information back to Ofsted expectations was reassuring. Ideas shared with other schools are brilliant" **SS Peter & Paul Primary**

EAL induction training for TAs

"It has supported my knowledge dramatically and has given me a lot of ideas to use with the language barriers I am coming up against and will in the future." **Grove St -20.01.14**

SMSC Governor Training

"Very informative- outlined current practice and next steps clearly" **Bedford Drive**

Community language GCSE

St Mary's College supports pupils to access Polish GCSE Including 7 of their own pupils and some for other local secondary schools. MEAS supported schools with GCSE Portuguese and has received out of borough requests to support with Polish GCSE.

7 Recommendation

Forum Notes the Report