

**Wirral Schools Forum
Minority Ethnic Achievement Service (MEAS)
January 2020**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report updates the Forum on the recent changes to the Minority Ethnic Achievement service and the service plans for the future.

The Minority Ethnic Achievement Service (MEAS) helps you to meet the needs of bilingual learners and ethnic minority pupils at risk of underachievement. We support your staff to challenge racism and enhance provision for SMSC development. We pride ourselves on being an experienced, professional team of EAL professionals who respond quickly to the challenges of a new arrival or queries about cultural differences and communication with families. MEAS is unique in the breadth and flexibility of our offer to schools and settings.

MEAS is a fully traded service within the council.

Income source	Income April 2019 – March 2020
Wirral SLA schools 72 schools (62 primary, 7 secondary, 3 special)	£ 100,810
Income from other sources	£ 19,955
Syrian resettlement grant	£ 37,516
Total Income	£ 154,881
Total Expenditure	£ 155,000

CUSTOMER PRIORITIES:

- Support for pupils/families with EAL (English as an Additional Language) which include whole school development, pupil assessments, interpreting, & family learning
- Support for SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) development which include Multicultural workshops/sessions focussing upon languages, countries, cultures and religions and School of Sanctuary
- Support for challenging racism and race equality planning in schools
- Support for engaging with BME (Black and Minority Ethnic) families and improving outcomes.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- 72 Wirral schools continue buy back MEAS packages
- Appointment of a full time Arabic speaking bilingual project officer
- 24 Schools of Sanctuary in Wirral. 5 new schools were awarded in July and we expect at least 5 schools to complete this year.

- Developing training and support to staff and settings in PVI sector using funding from Children's Centres
- New EAL volunteers course delivered Autumn term and several are currently placed in schools. Languages include: Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Tamil, Turkish

2020-21 PRIORITIES

- To continue meeting the needs of Wirral schools and to be flexible to changes in demand. Schools maintain current level of buyback in the challenging economic climate.
- To continue supporting schools to challenge racism and celebrate diversity
- To develop support materials around Windrush to develop awareness, empathy and understanding
- To develop family learning workshops which include information about UK schools and how to help your child learn English and achieve highly in school

STAFFING

There are currently 5.2 FTE members of staff (7 members of staff)

1FTE manager

0.2 FTE deputy manager (1 staff)

1.6 Teaching assistants (2 staff)

2.4 Bilingual project officers (4 staff)

Additional voluntary staff support with different language requirements as and when required.

The service is based at:

Birkenhead Town Hall, Hamilton Sq, Birkenhead, Wirral CH41 5BR

Please see our entry in the Wirral Traded Services Brochure for more information on the service offer and pricing.