

# Resources to support schools with children from refugee backgrounds

November 2022

The resources are arranged under the following headings:

- Welcoming new arrivals into school
- Learning English as an additional language
- Working with parents to support their child's learning
- Supporting mental health and wellbeing of newly arrived pupils
  - Understanding the nature and impact of trauma
- Advice and support for families affected by migration
  - Wellbeing and mental health
- Local Support for families in Hertfordshire
- PSHE/RSHE/Citizenship/Geography curriculum resources
  - Friendship, belonging, welcoming new arrivals
  - Refugees and migration

This list will be developed as further resources become available.

## Welcoming new arrivals into school

**DfE Guidance – [Resources to help support children and young people arriving from Ukraine.](#)**

The resources include:

- [Explaining the education system](#)
- [Learning English as an additional language](#)
- [Supporting wellbeing](#)
- [Supporting mental health](#)
- [Resources to support refugees](#)
- [Avoiding misinformation](#)

**Blog:** How to support Afghan refugee children in schools

<https://www.bell-foundation.org.uk/news/how-to-support-afghan-refugee-children-in-schools/>

This post is a summary of a recent webinar, hosted by The Bell Foundation and presented by the charity Refugee Education UK, which gave guidance and practical strategies to teachers on how to support Afghan refugee children in schools.

Key sections in this article:

- [What are Afghan children likely to have experienced before reaching the UK?](#)
- [What are the common challenges Afghan refugee children experience in UK schooling?](#)
- [How can teachers address the challenges Afghan refugee children face?](#)
- [What further information and training can teachers draw on?](#)

### The Bell Foundation webinars

The Bell Foundation offers a range of free to access training webinars for schools. The webinars below all have a focus on supporting and welcoming new refugee arrivals.

A comprehensive library of the Bell Foundation's webinars, along with their associated resources, can be found on the Foundation's [YouTube channel](#).

- [How to support new refugee arrivals in the classroom \(secondary\)](#)
- [Supporting new refugee arrivals in the inclusive classroom \(primary\)](#)
- [How to welcome Ukrainian arrivals in UK schools](#)
- [The central role of language in supporting new refugee arrivals](#)
- [Welcoming refugee children: advice and guidance for schools](#)
- [Newly arrived pupils who are new to English](#)

## Learning English as an additional language

### Bell Foundation - [EAL assessment framework and tracker](#)

The Bell Foundation's award-winning EAL assessment framework for schools and digital EAL assessment tracker are available free of charge to all schools in the UK.

### Bell Foundation- [EAL strategies and classroom resources](#)

The Bell Foundation offers a range of free resources to support EAL teaching and language development within EYFS, primary and secondary settings.

The [Great Ideas pages](#) offer strategies and ideas recommended for EAL learners.

*'The majority of these approaches can be used with everyone in the class, but they are particularly important for EAL learners because they provide a rich context, additional support, opportunities for collaborative learning and exploratory talk, and all the important features of good practice in meeting the educational needs of EAL learners.'*

### Bell Foundation Training Course

#### How to adapt teaching for learners who use EAL (Online Course)

Course date 1-25<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Ticket sales end 25<sup>th</sup> October

Cost £43-£65

This online course explores the distinctive nature of adaptive teaching when taking into account a learner's proficiency in English. It provides guidance on how you can adapt your curriculum

teaching in a responsive way to meet the language development needs of your pupils who use English as an Additional Language (EAL).

[Find out more details and book](#)

### **Understanding the language and literacy needs of EAL learners**

#### **[National Literacy Trust resources](#)**

There are four resources on the site:

- Assessment of pupils with English as an additional language
- A whole school EAL reflection tool
- EAL glossary of terms
- Reading development for learners of English as an additional language

### **[Young Interpreters Scheme – Hampshire EMTAS](#)**

The Young Interpreter Scheme® provides peer support to pupils who are learning English as an Additional Language (EAL)

‘The Young Interpreter Scheme® recognises the huge potential that exists within each school community for pupils of all ages to use their skills and knowledge to support new learners of English so that they feel safe, settled and valued from the start.

Young Interpreters undergo specific training to prepare for this role and are selected on the basis of different personal qualities they may have.’

Registration to the Young Interpreter Scheme costs £70 per school and includes unlimited access to either [Primary](#) or [Secondary](#) Moodle + one year’s access to [subscription page](#) (worth £25). A range of branded badges, stickers and other items are available to purchase.

## **Working with parents to support their child’s learning**

### **[Bell Foundation Resources](#)**

The resources include:

- Working with parents to support the learning of pupils who use EAL: Guidance for schools
- How parents can use home languages to support the home learning and schoolwork of EAL pupils (webinar recording)
- Helping children learn: Guidance for parents of students who use English as an additional language (available in 20 languages)
- About the English Education system: Guidance for parents of children who use English as an additional language (available in 20 languages)

## The National Literacy Trust

### [Free resources and books for Ukrainian families](#)

The National Literacy Trust is in the process of developing resources for Ukrainian families arriving in the UK. These include, EAL resources to learn English, activities for Ukrainian refugees, teaching resources and more.

In the meantime Ukrainian families can [fill out this form](#) to receive a welcome reading pack.

Each welcome reading pack contains a tote-bag with age-appropriate books in English, a ruler, pencil, pack of markers, stickers, a pencil case, a hardback notebook. You will also receive some printed resources, information about local literacy activities and a QR code to access digital activities.

## Interpretation services and apps

There are several free interpretation apps to help communicate with families.

### [Google translate](#)

[Tarjimly](#), an app which was set up in 2017 in response to the Syrian refugee crisis. This app enables families to request a translator for a particular language. The app connects via live chat to a translator and can be used to send text, documents, and start a phone or video call. The service is free.

[SayHi Translate](#) app for iOS and Android phones. This provides a simultaneous translation between different languages

Hertfordshire based [Herts Interpreting & Translation](#), there will be a charge for these services.

## Supporting Mental health and wellbeing of newly arrived pupils - Understanding the nature and impact of trauma

### [Anna Freud Centre](#)

**Free training** – Creating the Environment for Recovery for Displaced Children, Young People and Families, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022. Now on demand:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XA2G60M6tzo>

This training focused on how to create an environment for recovery for children, young people and families who have experienced trauma because of armed conflict and forced displacement.

David Trickey, Co-Director of the UK Trauma Council, chaired the session with keynote speaker, Rachel Calam, Professor Emerita in Psychology and Mental Health at the University of Manchester. Professor Calam's current research focuses on parenting in families with

significant mental health difficulties, parenting in different cultures and countries, and computer-assisted interviewing as a means of helping to give a voice to children.

Professor Calam has recently led the development and dissemination of [resources](#) sharing parenting skills information for families affected by the invasion of Ukraine.

### **Trauma informed council**

‘The UK Trauma Council (UKTC) creates evidence-based resources to improve professionals and carers’ understanding of the nature and impact of trauma. We aim to better equip all those supporting children and young people exposed to trauma.’

How to support refugee and asylum-seeking children and young people who have experienced trauma. Lots of resource links aiming to support children and young people seeking asylum or living as refugees in the UK who have experienced trauma.

**[Find out more](#)**

### **UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency**

#### **Guidance on working with refugee children struggling with stress and trauma.**

‘This document deals with stress and trauma related behaviours in refugee children. It aims to help teachers understand how stress and trauma can affect refugee children and students, and also to give some tips and advice to teachers on how to successfully include children and students who suffer from stress and trauma in their classrooms’

### **Advice and support for families affected by migration - Wellbeing and mental health**

### **Barnardos Ukrainian support helpline**

Free confidential helpline: 0800 148 8586

Email: [Ukrainiansupport@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:Ukrainiansupport@barnardos.org.uk)

Barnardos offers [help for anyone fleeing the Ukrainian conflict](#), or any child, young person or family affected by migration because of other conflicts. Therapy, advice and practical support are available by phone or online in other languages.

Get in touch if you need support with:

- Therapy with a qualified psychotherapist – delivered via the phone or online, with access to interpreters

- Advice on a range of issues e.g., housing, accessing key health services, education, employment and more via our trained helpline support workers
- Practical support – access to digital devices to ensure families stay connected to loved ones during this worrying time, as well as stimulating toys for children, vital baby items and more (subject to demand)

All services include access to interpreters in Ukrainian.

### Local Support for families in Hertfordshire

#### Flourish

Flourish is a countywide service providing advice, information, onward referral and holistic support to any refugee or asylum seeker in Hertfordshire who is experiencing mental ill health or need support with their mental wellbeing or daily challenges. This service is primarily available to those aged 18 and above, but schools are encouraged to refer to the service if they believe the family could use any additional wider support. Flourish also supports host families of Ukrainian guests and can help a young person is worried about the home situation. The service is a rapid route to support for families and is open access. Referrals are welcomed by anyone, including self-referrals as well as professionals.

Contact Flourish

Telephone: 0203 727 3600

Email: [flourish@hertsmindnetwork.org](mailto:flourish@hertsmindnetwork.org)

#### [Support for Ukrainian refugees in Hertfordshire](#)

Information about support for Ukrainian refugees in Hertfordshire which includes links to national efforts as well as local support for families can be found here.

The website includes the [Hertfordshire welcome pack](#) which is an excellent starting point for practical information and should be read alongside the Government '[Guide for Ukrainians Arriving in the UK](#)'.

The welcome pack includes information on:

- Local support and supplies
- Free school meals
- Family centres
- Childcare
- Services for young people
- Money advice
- Doctors and emergency numbers
- Health and wellbeing
- Libraries

## **Community help in Hertfordshire**

The website is hosted by [Community Help Herts](#), a partnership of voluntary sector organisations who can signpost Ukrainian refugees to [additional voluntary sector support in Hertfordshire](#).

## **PSHE/RSHE/Citizenship/Geography curriculum resources - Friendship, belonging, welcoming new arrivals Refugees and migration**

### **British Red Cross refugee and migration teaching resources**

The Red Cross free resources support learning in primary and secondary settings. They are aimed to help young people challenge assumptions about migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, and to develop mutual respect, empathy and understanding.

Primary and secondary teaching resources help explore:

- what causes people to leave their homes and what their experiences are like
- the meaning of the terms asylum seekers, migrants and refugees
- what makes us who we are and how we can understand and celebrate our differences.'

**Resources on the site include:**

- [Positive Images 11-19](#)
- [Refugee Journeys: The long road 14-19](#)
- [Identity and belonging 7-11, 11-14](#)

### **Coram Life Education The Belonging Toolkit**

The Belonging Toolkit is free to schools and was co-produced between Coram Life Education and Coram's Young Citizens - young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds - who gave invaluable insight into the experiences of migrant children and young people.

The Belonging Toolkit is professionally accredited by the PSHE Association.

### **Spotlight on picture books – Friendship, belonging and welcoming others HCC Library service recommendations taken from their blog published: 13/06/2022**

- These picture books encourage acceptance and sharing as well as exploring what it means to be a friend.
- Current global conflicts have also brought children into contact with refugees from across the world and there are some beautiful, emotive picture books that address this; welcoming others whilst teaching tolerance, respect and above all empathy and

compassion.

[Access the booklist](#)

### **National Literacy Trust**

#### **[Refugee and migrant stories](#)**

This booklist celebrates the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary.

‘Teachers of children aged 5 to 12 may find these titles especially useful when teaching empathy, supporting children’s understanding of how conflict causes people to leave their homes. It may have relevance if your school community is welcoming new pupils impacted in this way.’

**The information in this document is given to help support schools with children from refugee backgrounds.**

Every care has been taken to ensure the information in this resource is accurate at the time of publishing.

[HFL Education](#) is a provider of products and services to schools and educational settings. We believe that every young person, through access to a great education, should be able to realise their potential, regardless of where they live or their circumstances.