

Questions and answers

If a Gypsy, Roma and Traveller child accesses my early years setting whom can I contact for support?

You can contact your local Traveller Education Support Service (TESS) through your Local Authority or via the National Association of Travelling Teachers website www.natt.org.uk

The aim of TESS is to raise the educational achievement of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children and to promote Gypsy, Roma and Traveller culture in school and the community. The role of the Advisory Teachers from TESS is to help schools include Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils and to promote their achievement and engagement in the opportunities provided by the school. Some TESSs may have a selection of resources which settings can loan from them.

Why do I need to represent the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller culture within my setting?

All public bodies, including early years settings, which are directly run or maintained by the local education authority have a statutory duty to promote race equality. Gypsies and Travellers of Irish Heritage are recognised as distinct ethnic groups under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000. This means settings must represent these groups, just as they would any other ethnic minority group. See inclusive education for more information.
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Where can I buy resources that reflect the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller culture?

Most TESSs have a good selection of resources to borrow or purchase. They also have information on where to buy other suitable resources. Play activities and resource information can also be downloaded from 'Working Towards Inclusive Practice' play activities. A list of appropriate early years resources can be found under the resources section.

We Save the Children  Will you?

How do I find out more about the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller cultures?

Most TESSs offer cultural awareness training. The Early Years Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Project offers training on cultural understanding and inclusive educational practice. More information can be found in the training section. Links to general information can be found in the resources section.

How do I write Gypsy, Roma and Traveller?

Gypsies, Roma and Travellers of Irish heritage are distinct ethnic minority groups under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 and require capital letters in any written format.

