

A day in the life

Grade 6 Bi-lingual Support Worker

You will be part of a team called the International New Arrival Team [INAT] who are based within the Educational Safeguarding Service. The remit of the of the team is to support the integration and access to education for children and young people who are asylum seekers, refugees, and vulnerable migrants.

The Educational Safeguarding service incorporates attendance and pupil support as both a traded and statutory roll. The service has a legal duty to ensure we carry out certain statutory responsibilities on behalf of the LA. These include children missing education, elective home education, asylum seekers. Referrals come from all schools across Kirklees, the Home Office and directly from parents/carers and we provide time limited intervention to ensure the most vulnerable children are safe and engaging in education.

The INA Team is part of the Kirklees Welcomes offer to support all International new arrivals into Kirklees and therefore work closely with the partners which include the migration and resettlement team [who are part of the community's service], housing, third sector leader who provide the volunteer welcome mentors, and This Way for English along with other voluntary organisations such as DASH, Welcome centre, and the Women's centre etc.

Due to the covid pandemic Kirklees staff have moved to home working and staff have been provided with IT equipment to ensure they can carry out their duties at home. However, there are now some bookable hot desks in Kirklees buildings spread between the North and South of the local authority if required.

The role of the Bi-Lingual Support Worker includes working with admissions processes to identify school places, communicate with school staff to ensure our young people receive the best start to their education which in turn improves the educational outcomes for the students with English as Another Language [EAL]. We work directly with parents to assess any unmet needs for the family and signpost to other services and agencies for support. We work with children and young people one to one or with small groups of pupils and support staff in schools to deliver the curriculum, we develop home to school relationships and open lines for communication regarding educational issues or concerns regarding the children or young people for a period of integration.

The support worker would be expected to manage allocated cases, and could include undertaking joint working with Attendance Officers to support the integration of pupils in to their allocated school, travel to schools or meetings to support the families, use their interpreting skills to communicate with parents and children in their additional language and includes the accessing of traded of translation services, use IT computer word processing skills to keep up to date accurate records, and manage their own diary in line with the services expectations.