

Supporting the inclusion of refugees in the class

Involving parents/carers - inclusion of new children

- Becoming part of the parent community is important for parents/carers of refugees and may affect how well their child does at school.
- As a school, you will already have procedures in place for home-school communications for new children, but it is also important to encourage new parents/carers to interact with the community.
- It is important to let all parents/carers know about the sessions you are running on refugee inclusion, so they can reinforce the ideas and learning at home.
- You might like to hold a dedicated parent meeting either in-person or online. In the meeting, you can share how the school works with refugees and what you have covered in the sessions. You can also ask parents/carers to suggest ideas of how to support the new child's parents/carers.

Suggestions for including the new parents/carers:

- Ensure that the new parents/carers have the chance to join any social media groups and are aware of any activities that are happening.
- Suggest that the new child is included in the children's birthday celebrations and other social activities that happen outside of school. How can they go that extra mile to make this child feel included?
- Ask if someone would be happy to take on the responsibility in leading these inclusion efforts.
- Mention that it would be really helpful if parents/carers can talk about inclusion at home and remind the children of what was talked about in this session on a regular basis.
- If a parent meeting is not possible, information that there is a new child in the class and the ideas above could be sent to parents/carers together with the session plan, with a suggestion to talk to the children about it at home.

