

Why should I tell others I'm a Traveller?

PRIDE - It is good to be proud of who you are!

It is good that others learn about, and meet and know, people of different backgrounds.

RESPECT - It is a human right for the world to respect you for who you really are.

There is nothing to be ashamed of in being a Gypsy, Roma or Traveller.

RIGHTS - Bullies will never be challenged and exposed for what they are by the silence of fear.

You have a right to education and you shouldn't have to hide your ethnicity or cultural identity.

Your happy and successful learning will often need you to draw on your life experiences within your family and community. You will not be able to do this if you are fearful about the school knowing who you really are.

HELP - Your teachers will be able to help you more if they know about your ethnicity and cultural background.

Schools will be able to buy resources to celebrate Gypsy, Roma and Traveller culture to support you and to educate all pupils in the school.

If you need additional teaching support, this may not be possible unless the school is fully aware of their ethnicity.



Hampshire EMTAS work to improve the educational outcomes for children and young people from ethnic minority groups, including Traveller families.



You or your family can contact us any time and we will be happy to answer your questions.

Stand up and be counted!

Further Information:

www.hants.gov.uk/emtas
Tel: 01256 330195
EMTAS@hants.gov.uk



Information on ascription for Traveller students



What is ascription?

Why should I ascribe?



Ascription

When you first join school, your parents will be asked to ascribe to the ethnic group you feel best represents your family's background. When you are in secondary school you can do this yourself although we recommend you do so with the support of your family.

You have the right to decide whether or not to give this information to the school and the school cannot make a decision for you. It is recommended that you **do** provide the information, however, as it is used to monitor the progress and achievement of different groups of pupils to make sure none is disadvantaged.

By ticking WROM or WIRT it also means specialist staff at EMTAS can support you.

Still worried?

All data collected is anonymous and treated confidentially.

Information about pupils' ethnic backgrounds is collected and used to monitor progress and achievement. It is a statutory requirement that all schools collect this information for every child. This means schools have to collect ethnicity data by law. Numbers are counted and you are not identified as individuals.

Correct ascription can help combat racism and bullying.

All schools have anti bullying policies and it is law that all incidents are reported. Exact information is vital to stamp out racism and bullying and make it easier for you in school.

Attendance recording

If schools know about Gypsy, Roma and Traveller culture they'll understand that pupils can be legally registered in two schools to help with education while travelling. Also absence can be recorded correctly with a T code for travelling when visiting fairs and travelling for work so your parents don't get into any trouble over your attendance.

Resources

For example free school meals and clothing grants can be allocated where needed if schools know who you are.

This leaflet is for students. It was written to explain why schools ask you and your family to identify an ethnic code (ascription). Schools usually ask for this information at admission.

Ascription means to be proud to tell your school that you are a Gypsy or Traveller.

Very few Travellers stand up and say who they are at school and we want to help change that.

When you next fill out an admission form look out for these boxes.



Your parents may have previously ticked White British (WBRI) or perhaps they cannot remember. You can discuss your ethnicity with the school at any time and have this changed to Gypsy/Roma (WROM) or Traveller of Irish Heritage (WIRT).

