



Hampshire EMTAS

Working with children, families and schools on all aspects of practice and provision for:

- ✓ pupils learning English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- ✓ pupils from Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) communities
- ✓ pupils from Black and Minority Ethnic groups

GRT and Showmen Literacy Ambassadors

For many children from GRT communities, reading can be a challenge. Some come from households where there is nobody who can support their reading development by reading with them daily and this can impact on their progress. In school, GRT children's under-developed literacy skills can significantly impede their learning in all areas of the curriculum.

The good news is that there is a simple solution that can help improve progress and outcomes whilst maintaining children's confidence and community identity: daily reading at school supported through the EMTAS Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) and Showmen Literacy Ambassador programme.

What does it involve?

The EMTAS Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) and Showmen Literacy Ambassador programme would work in your school if:

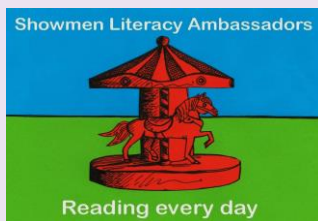
- you have on roll GRT and/or Showmen children who are good readers and who are proud of their reading achievements
- and
- you have other GRT and/or Showmen children on roll who are struggling with reading.

Overseen by an adult with whom the communities have a good relationship, every GRT and/or Showman child in your school reads with a peer from their own community for 5 to 10 minutes every day.

GRT and Showmen Literacy Ambassadors

Why two different groups?

GRT and Showmen are different communities so it is a good idea to run separate groups, each with its own identity. The EMTAS GRT and Showmen Literacy Ambassador programme provides badges for the EMTAS GRT/Showmen Literacy Ambassadors showing which community they are from.



What impact can the EMTAS Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) and Showmen Literacy Ambassador programme have?

Because the children are reading daily in school, the pressure is taken off GRT/Showmen parents to read at home. At the same time, the GRT/Showmen children are no longer missing out on the daily reading practice that is known to accelerate progress in reading for all children.

Schools that took part in the pilot scheme found their GRT/Showmen pupils made up to 3 years' progress in reading in one year.

The more able GRT/Showmen readers benefited from improvements in their questioning and reasoning skills too, whilst the school gained from increased trust from their GRT/Showmen communities.

How do I set this up in my school?

If you are interested in finding out more about how the EMTAS GRT and Showmen Literacy Ambassador programme could work in your school, contact Claire.Barker@hants.gov.uk.

Visit our website for more information
www.hants.gov.uk/EMTAS