

Aims



- To raise self-esteem for Black and Minority Ethnic Pupils including Travellers and give them confidence in their setting.
- To raise children's awareness and understanding of equality issues.
- To promote greater understanding and reduce negative stereotyping.
- To develop skills of empathy
- To recognise similarities and differences between themselves in their setting and in the wider world.

Mirrors and Windows



When choosing a doll, it might be tempting to choose a doll that reflects a child in your setting, but ideally, we want to provide 'mirrors and windows' into the lives of others. What does this mean?

MIRRORS - Persona Dolls bring stories that engage children, that mirror their lived experiences & provide opportunities for the child's voice to be heard & valued.

WINDOWS - Persona Dolls bring identities & backgrounds that open windows to diversity & provide opportunities for children to develop a **positive attitude towards difference**.

Refugees and Asylum Seekers



Sharing the stories of our dolls provides practitioners the opportunity to broaden children's understanding and knowledge of the lives of others whilst developing a foundation of mutual respect in a practical, enjoyable way. Our dolls provide a voice and a safe space for children who have been faced with prejudice, discrimination and to talk about the issues they and their families face as Refugees and Asylum Seekers.

Resources

The [EMTAS Moodle](#) hosts a wealth of resources to support using the Persona Dolls. You will find links to:

- Our supporting guidance on how to use the dolls.
- Background information about the doll you are using.
- Suggested social stories for the dolls.
- Links to songs, and games from the doll's first language/country of origin.
- An e-postcard template for your pupils to share their experiences of meeting the dolls in your setting.

Early Years Curriculum Links



Children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED) is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives and is fundamental to their cognitive development. Underpinning their personal development are the important attachments that shape their social world.

Personal Social and Emotional Development:

- Self-regulation
- Managing self
- Building relationships

Understanding The World

- Past and present
- People, culture and communities
- The natural world

Key Stage One and Two Curriculum Links (RSE)



In primary schools, we want the subjects to put in place the key building blocks of healthy, respectful relationships, focusing on family and friendships. We know that children and young people are increasingly experiencing challenges, and that young people are at particular risk of feeling lonely. The new subject content will give them the knowledge and capability to take care of themselves and receive support if problems arise.

Relationships and Sex Education:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships

Links



- See the Persona Dolls guidance on the [EMTAS Website](#)
- Access resources via the [EMTAS Moodle](#)
- Read more on the [EMTAS Blog](#)