



Adoption and Fostering Alliance Scotland

Resources for working with unaccompanied asylum-seeking/refugee children and young people

As this is an evolving policy area, we will update this resource list in response to future changes. If you have information or suggestions that you think would be helpful to include, please contact Maggie Grant (margaret.grant@afascotland.com).

Many thanks to Ruth Weston (University of Stirling and City of Edinburgh Council) for her input.

CoramBAAF publications

CoramBAAF has produced a range of relevant publications, including advice, training materials and research reports. Agencies may already have received copies of some publications in previous BAAF/CoramBAAF membership mailings. To check what is currently available, go to the [CoramBAAF bookshop](#)

Practical Resources

Bilingual dictionaries/foreign language books

Grant & Cutler Bookseller: now part of Foyles bookshop, Grant & Cutler specialise in dictionaries and other resources in a very wide range of languages. Orders can be placed online. <http://foyles.co.uk/languages>

Arabic-English Bilingual Visual Dictionary: each word has an accompanying picture to help with translation. <http://amzn.eu/iZZRdnG>

Guide for foster carers caring for Muslim children

Although not all children and young people from Muslim backgrounds will have been raised in practising Muslim families or communities, this guide contains practical advice for foster carers and practitioners about a range of important aspects of Islam's tenets and practices. Produced by Mercy Mission (www.mercymission.org) in collaboration with (formerly) BAAF's Black and Minority Ethnic Perspectives Committee.

www.fosterline.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Guide-for-foster-carers-caring-for-Muslim-children.pdf

Activities for promoting self-esteem and resilience in young asylum seekers

Allen, P., Warwick, I. & Begum, J. (2005) *New in our Nation: Activities to promote self-esteem and resilience in young asylum seekers*. London: Paul Chapman Publishing.

A practical programme for adults who are supporting young refugees, in eight sessions including exploring feelings, poetry and painting.



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Recipe book created by young asylum seekers and refugees: Let Me Cook For You
www.kran.org.uk/tag/let-me-cook-for-you/

Policy documents

Age assessment guidance for social workers (**currently being revised)
www.migrationscotland.org.uk/uploads/files/documents/age_assessment_guidance.pdf

Home Office - Country of Origin reports
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/country-policy-and-information-notes>

UNICEF report (2016) on refugee and migrant children
www.unicef.org/emergencies/childrenonthemove/files/Child_Alert_Final_PDF.pdf

Scottish Government: Action to combat human trafficking
www.gov.scot/Topics/Justice/policies/reducing-crime/human-trafficking

Health

Unaccompanied asylum seeking children - health resources and guidance developed in Kent

Kent County Council has had a relatively high number of unaccompanied asylum seeking children in their care (several hundred cases per year) and designed this website to share the expertise of their UASC Project Team:

<http://www.uaschealth.org/>

Female Genital Mutilation: Forward – safeguarding rights and dignity

<http://forwarduk.org.uk/key-issues/fgm/>

Female Genital Mutilation: Scotland's National Action Plan to Prevent and Eradicate FGM

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2016/02/8232/1>



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Organisations: Scotland, UK and international

Scottish Refugee Council

Scottish Refugee Council produce advice and information in a range of languages for people seeking asylum, although not specifically aimed at children and young people in foster care.

www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

On their website you can also find a list of local refugee community organisations:

www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0000/9406/RCOs_list_March2015.pdf

Scottish Guardianship Service

The Scottish Guardianship Service works with children and young people who arrive in Scotland unaccompanied and separated from their families. The service supports unaccompanied asylum seeking and trafficked children and young people. Guardians support the young people by helping them navigate the immigration and welfare processes, and feel supported and empowered throughout the asylum process, assisting them to access the help they need when they need it, and make informed decisions about their future.

www.aberlour.org.uk/how_we_help/services/248_scottish_guardianship_service

See also:

Crawley, H. & Kohli, R.K (2013) *'She endures with me': An Evaluation of the Scottish Guardianship Service Pilot*, London: Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Fund / Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/what_we_do/policy_and_research/research_reports

Multi-Cultural Family Base (based in Edinburgh)

Multi Cultural Family Base (MCFB) works to enhance the well-being and life opportunities of disadvantaged and vulnerable children, young people and families in the City of Edinburgh. At least 60% of our service users are Black and Minority Ethnic and many are socially isolated recent migrants. We can offer both practical and emotional support to unaccompanied minors/ separated children to help them better deal with the issues of being new arrivals and dealing with the traumas and losses they have experienced. We can offer support on a one-to-one basis and group work for children up to the ages of 14 years. We can help link children / young people into mainstream services. We aim to help increase social confidence and improve emotional well-being; increase the knowledge of and access to the activities on offer within their community and increase opportunities to practice use of a second language (English) in supported 1-1 or small group settings. Referrals can be made by phone at our office base (0131 467 7052). More information about MCFB and the services it offers can be found on our web-site: www.mcfb.org.uk

City of Sanctuary (including local groups in Scotland)

Network of local groups working to welcome refugees: cityofsanctuary.org/about/

List of local groups here : cityofsanctuary.org/about/groups/



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Africans Unite Against Child Abuse (AFRUCA)

AFRUCA work with young African people who have been trafficked to the UK. It is embedded in and developed out of African communities in the UK. They provide a range of services including training.
www.afruca.org

Separated Children in Europe Programme

www.separated-children-europe-programme.org

Amnesty International

www.amnesty.org/en/

Human Rights Watch

www.hrw.org/

Research

Research currently underway at University of Stirling: Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children in Scotland

The University of Stirling has recently received funding from the Carnegie Trust to undertake research with local authorities across Scotland about their experience and understanding of work with unaccompanied asylum seeking children. The project is based at the Centre for Child Wellbeing and Protection and led by Dr Paul Rigby, Dr Maria Fotopoulou and Ashley Rogers. The research design is evolving in response to recent rapid and unanticipated policy changes, and the research team will be contacting local authorities with further information in the coming months, as the research progresses.

Scottish Refugee Council policy and research reports

Varied range of policy and research reports published for free by Scottish Refugee Council, available here:

www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/what_we_do/policy_and_research/research_reports

For example: Hopkins, P. & Hill, M. (2006) *This is a good place to live and think about the future...the needs and experiences of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in Scotland.*

www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0000/0345/This_is_a_good_place_to_live_and_think_about_the_future.pdf

University of Stirling

Dr Paul Rigby - research related to child victims of trafficking:

www.stir.ac.uk/people/21224/publications/



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University of Bedfordshire

Professor Ravi Kohli – research related to young people who seek asylum:

www.beds.ac.uk/howtoapply/departments/appliedsocialstudies/staff/institute-of-applied-social-research-staff/ravi-kohli

Coventry University

Professor Heaven Crawley – research related to migration, displacement and belonging:

www.coventry.ac.uk/research/research-directories/researchers/professor-heaven-crawley/

Published research reports (from a range of universities across UK)

Chase, E., Knight, A. and Statham, J. (2010) *The emotional well-being of young people seeking asylum in the UK*. London: BAAF.

Wade, J., Sirriyeh, A., Kohli, R and Simmonds J. (2012) *Fostering unaccompanied asylum seeking young people: creating a family life across a 'world of difference'*. London: BAAF.

Connolly H. (2014) 'For a while out of orbit': listening to what unaccompanied asylum-seeking/refugee children in the UK say about their rights and experiences in private foster care, *Adoption & Fostering*, 38(4), pp 331-345.

Wade J., Mitchell F. and Baylis G. (2005) *Unaccompanied asylum seeking children: the response of social work services*. London: BAAF.

Sirriyeh A. (2013) Hosting strangers: hospitality and family practices in fostering unaccompanied asylum seeking children. *Child and Family Social Work*, 18(1), 5 – 14.

Events

[World Refugee Day](#) is celebrated on 20th June and usually marked by a range of events.

Refugee Festival Scotland takes place every year around this time. For more information:

www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/refugee_festival_scotland

Further information

For any queries, please contact Maggie Grant: margaret.grant@afascotland.com