

REFUGEE WEEK 2025
COMMUNITY
AS
A SUPERPOWER
16-22 JUNE '25



COMMUNITY AS A SUPERPOWER
Explore the theme for Refugee Week
2025



Delivery guidance

This resource was designed for Key Stage 2 but could also be used or adapted for Key Stage 1 or 3.



If you want to customise this lesson...



We have **editable PowerPoint versions** of all of our lessons that you can [download from Google Drive via our website](#).

Password: Welcome4All

The PowerPoint versions include **higher resolution images, slide notes to support delivery and embedded videos**.

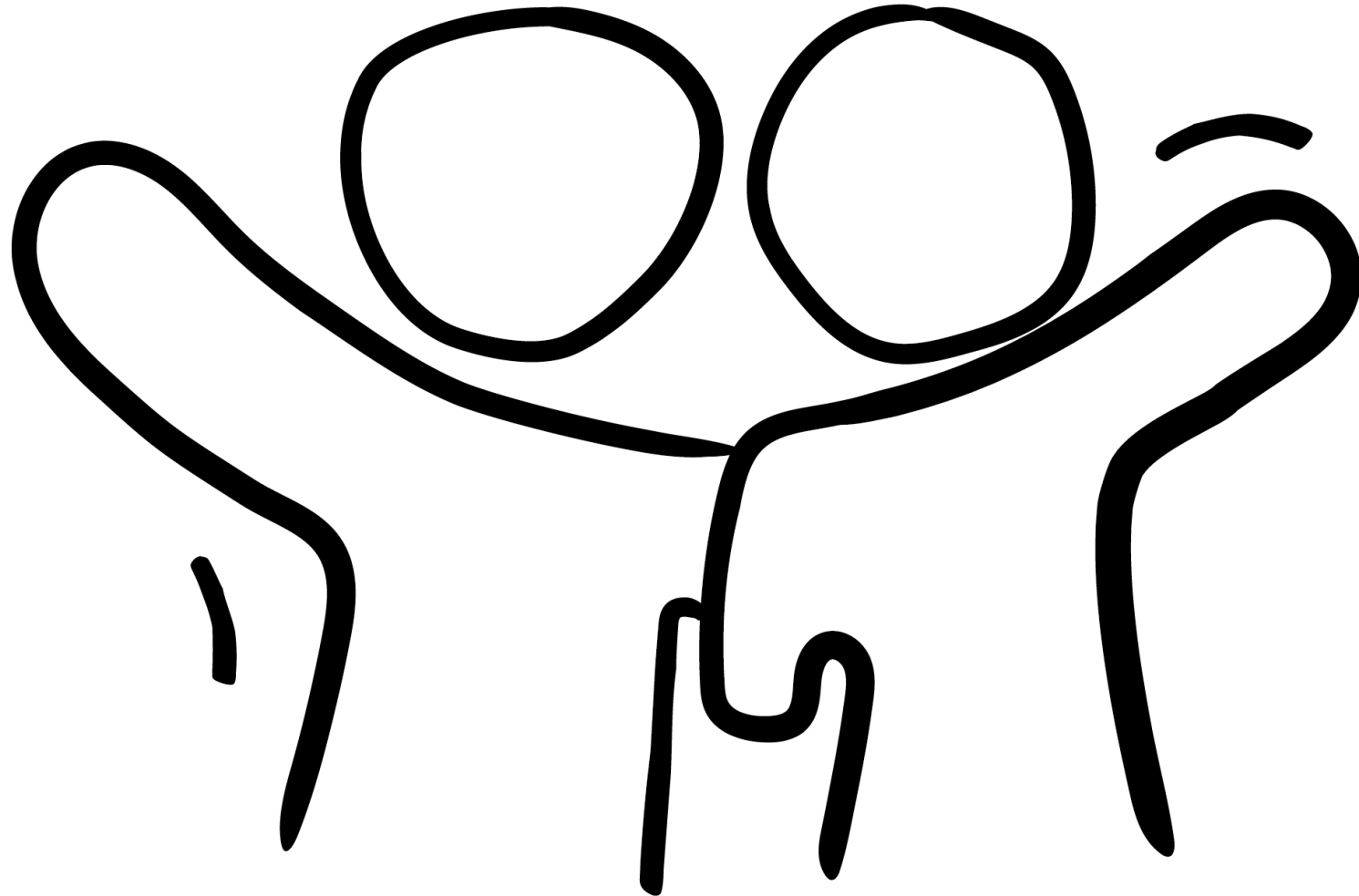


Community Cafe

COMMUNITY

In our assembly we looked at the word COMMUNITY and thought about what it might mean...

We talked about our school community made up of teachers, governors, TAs, midday supervisors, parent and cares and of course YOU!



A quick reminder...

We thought about the different *kinds* of communities we could belong to.

We thought about our school as a community – made up of all sorts of different people, doing all sorts of different jobs and contributing to making our school community a safe, welcoming and fun place to be.

Let's have a look...



A **community** is a group of people who have something *in common*
– an interest or a place that they share. It might be...

Your class

Your school

**A choir or
orchestra**

**A sports
team**

**A club like
Brownies or a
drama group**

Your family

**Your
Neighbourhood**



**Can you think of
any others?**

Everyone is welcome in our school community!



It can be really hard to move school, to move to a new place and to try and join a new community.

Because it is Refugee Week and A Day of Welcome, we can take a while to think about how we can welcome new people into our communities, especially refugees.

Who are refugees?

Who are refugees?

Refugees are ordinary people who live through extraordinary times

They are people forced to leave their country to flee danger and who cannot return or be returned to their homeland.





1 in every 67

**people on earth have
been forced to flee
their homes**

*Everyone has the right to seek and enjoy in
other countries asylum from persecution*

Article 14 of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Ali's Story

[Click this link to watch Ali's journey from Afghanistan.](#)

Ali is a ten-year-old boy who fled his home with his grandmother during the war in Afghanistan.

In this short animated film, he describes the sadness of separation from his family as well as his experiences adjusting to life in the UK.

Imagine if Ali
joined our
school...

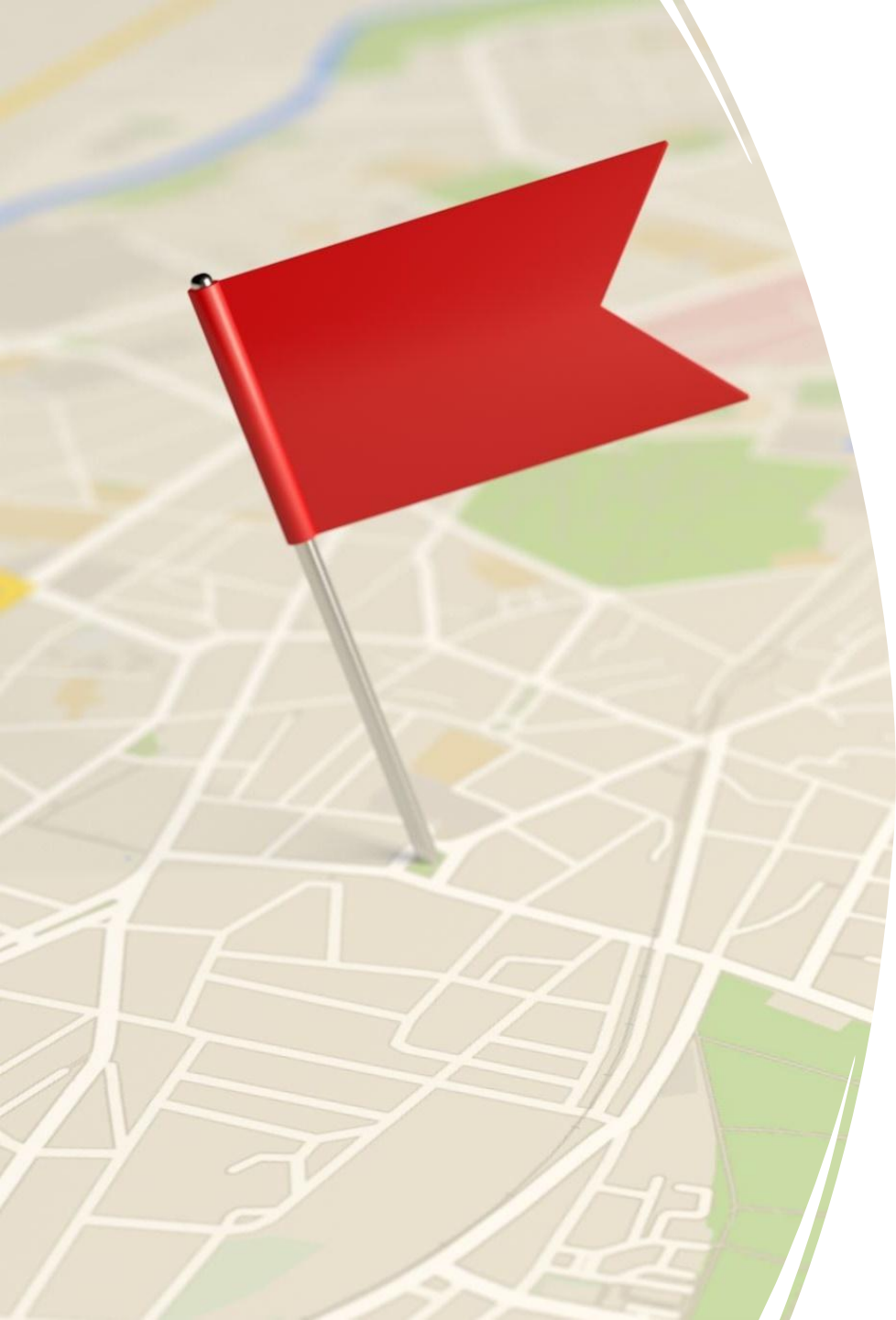


Remember this is just one story among millions! Everyone's story is different...

Where do we fit in?

Our school community belongs to a wider community. You might call it a neighbourhood, a village or even a town.





TASK 1

You have a map of our neighbourhood.
Have a careful look with your team.

- Can you find our school?
- Can you find any other places that you recognise? Mark them too.
- Can you find your house?



TASK 2

Think about all the kinds of people that you know live in our community.

Make a list of people that you KNOW live here

For example, someone who is 100 years old, a doctor, etc

Can you imagine any other kinds of people you don't know but who MIGHT live here

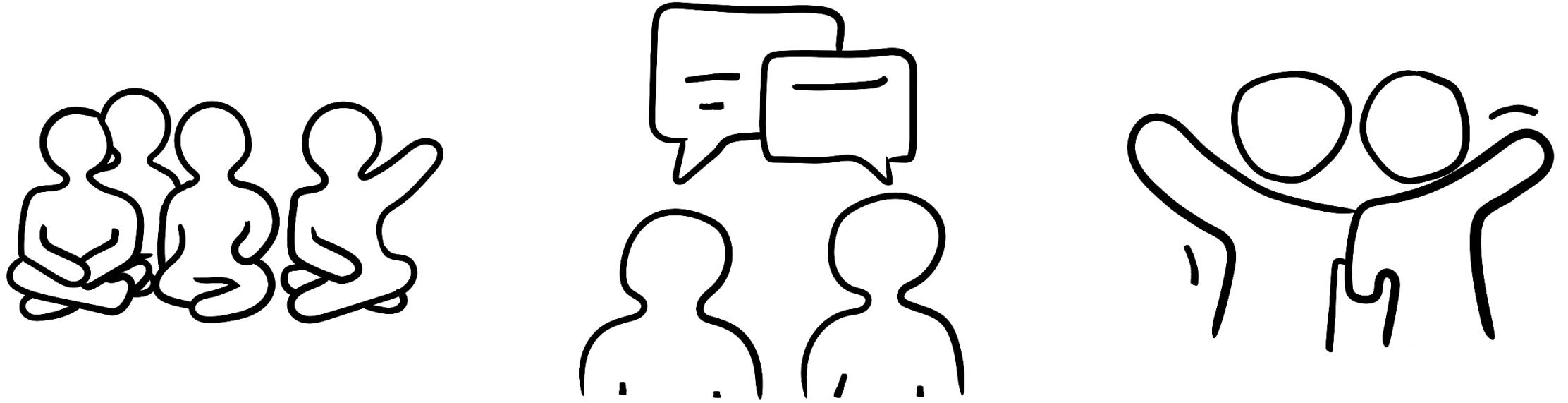
For example, someone who is a scientist, a Sikh family, a young family

TASK 3

Pick one place on the map – a building or a space and write together a list of all the things that happen there. Things people do together or reasons that people go there.

This park might be one example.





Sharing what we know!

Take time and take turns to make a whole class list of what you have found



**Community is
IMPORTANT!**

Being part of a community is important and it is also a responsibility.

We can all help to make any community that we belong to welcoming and powerful.

So what can we do?

TASK 4

On a new piece of paper, each group will make some very quick notes that answer the following questions.

YOU HAVE 3 MINUTES!

GROUP 1

Where are some places in our community that great things happen?

GROUP 2

Where are the places in our community that I would want to share with a newcomer?

GROUP 3

Where are the places in our community that new people really NEED to know about?

GROUP 4

What do I wish for our community?

Time to swap!

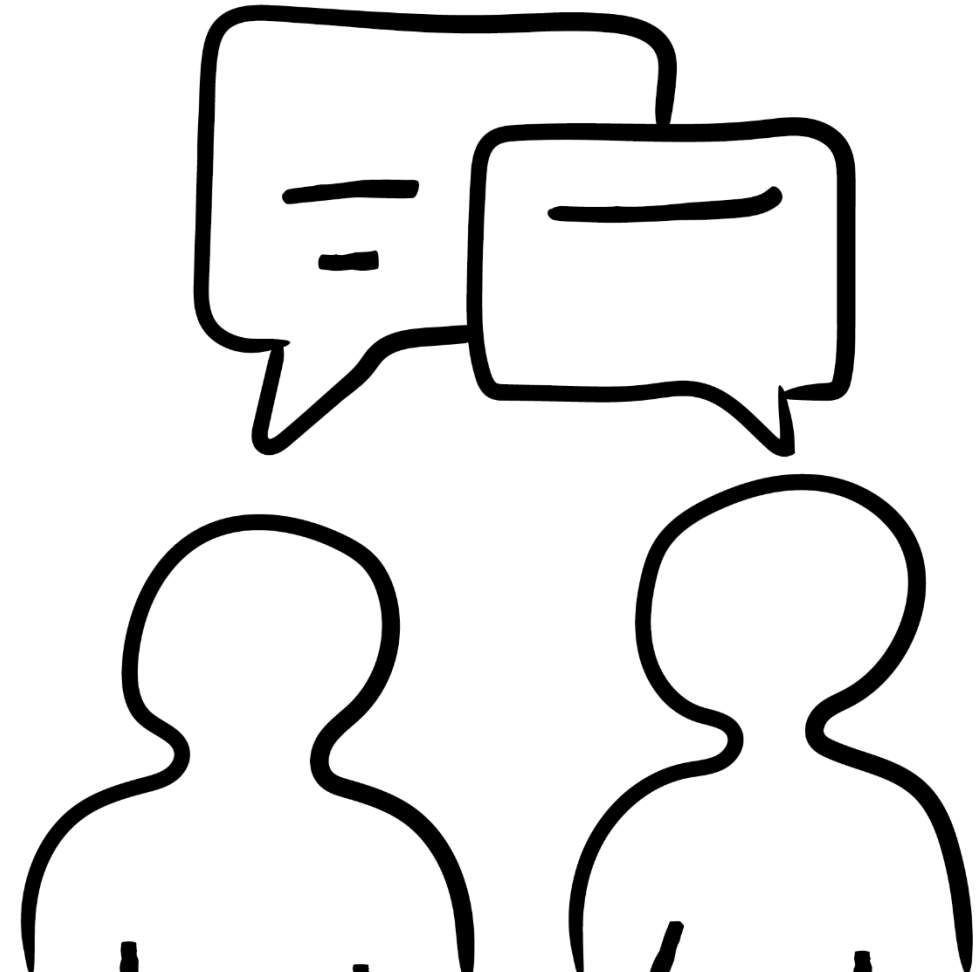
Each group moves to a new question –

Group 1 moves to Group 2 etc.

OR you can pass papers if moving is tricky in your classroom.

You have 3 minutes to read what the people before you have written and add to it.

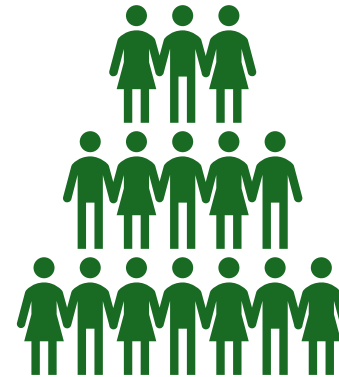
Do this until everyone has visited every question.



So what did we think?



Take some time to feedback all the ideas that you have noted down.



Decide together how you can share your work with the school community or even the WHOLE community!

Final thoughts...

BE KIND

**BE
PROUD**

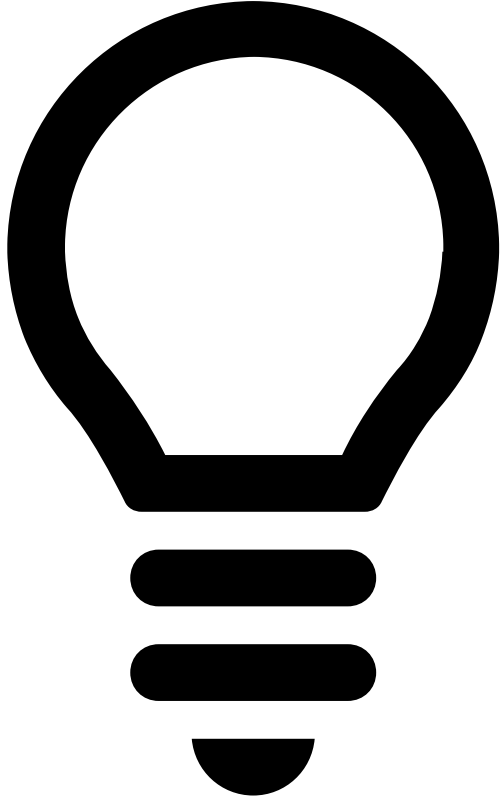
**BE
CURIOUS**

How big can a community be?

The bigger it is the more people it has each with their own talents, skills and gifts.

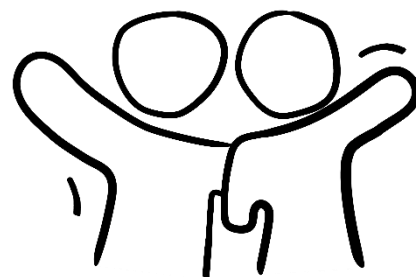
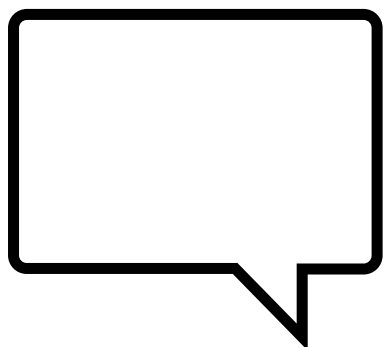
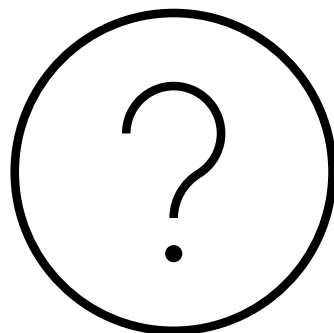
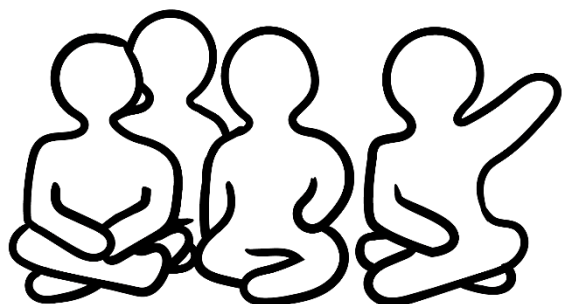
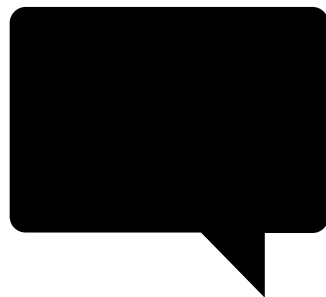
The more different kinds of people are included the smarter and more powerful the community becomes.





Other ideas

- Make a 'welcome to our school community' poster.
- Write a guide for a new student with your top tips – maybe start with the sentence OUR COMMUNITY IS A PLACE WHERE... and add some bullet points to show any new people how special it is.
- Create a guidebook, sharing things to see and do in your community. This can be shared with families who are new



A chance to share

If you have a question, thought or feeling about this lesson that you would like to share, now is your chance to write or draw it and give it to your teacher.

Don't forget to include your name, if you'd like your teacher to know who it is from.



**A DAY OF
WELCOME**

A DAY OF WELCOME



Refugee Week

A great way to kick-off Refugee Week in your school

A Day of Welcome is an annual day of solidarity and learning in schools that aims to build a culture of welcome and understanding for people seeking sanctuary.

Build a culture of welcome, belonging and solidarity in your school for those seeking sanctuary

Share stories of refugee migration, local and global, past and present, with your pupils

Better educate and support your refugee pupils and their families

Organised by:



Key partners:



VNET EDUCATION CIC

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



ASYLUM SPEAKERS



With support from:



The World of Languages
and Languages of the World



National Centre
for Writing





Is your school a School of Sanctuary?



*A School of Sanctuary aims to be a safe
and welcoming place for everyone.*

Find out more [here](#)

*Schools of Sanctuary is a UK-wide network of
1000+ primary and secondary schools,
nurseries and sixth forms all committed to
creating a culture of welcome and inclusion
for refugees and people seeking asylum.*

A School of Sanctuary:

*Raises awareness of
forced displacement
and migration*

*Ensures school
practice effectively
supports and
welcomes new
arrivals*

*Advocates for our
vision of welcome
and compassion*

**We are
building a
movement of
welcome!**



REFUGEE WEEK 2025
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16-22 June

Next week is Refugee Week!

There are loads of family-friendly activities and events across the country, many of which are free.

Signpost some of the Refugee Week activities locally to your staff and the families of your pupils.

[Find out more here](#)



**Refugee
Week**

A DAY OF WELCOME

We have so much more to offer you!

REFUGEE EDUCATION

Improving provision for any pupils or families who have experienced forced displacement is so important! We signpost and share the best and latest refugee education resources, guidance and CPD from partners such as UNHCR, The Bell Foundation and City of Sanctuary - essential for educators who work with refugees or asylum seekers.

[Access our Refugee Education page](#)

DAY OF WELCOME ARCHIVE

Over the years we have produced many resources to support schools to build a culture of welcome for refugees and asylum seekers. Feel free to explore our archive and choose from the dozens of teaching resources for Key Stages 1-4. There are ready-made assemblies, and lessons which introduce refugee migration, explain key concepts, explore refugee histories and much more!

[Access the Day of Welcome archive](#)



LOCAL RESOURCES

In some parts of the country, we have created and curated opportunities, organisations, resources and support that you can call upon as you build your culture of welcome for refugees and asylum seekers.

- Norfolk
- Suffolk
- Wales
- Essex
- Cambridgeshire
- West Midlands
- Greater Manchester
- Merseyside
- West Yorkshire
- Tyne & Wear

[Access our local resources](#)

*Join our movement to
make every day A Day
of Welcome for people
seeking sanctuary.*

Visit [our website](#)

Email us:

dayofwelcome@uk.cityofsanctuary.org



**A DAY OF
WELCOME**

