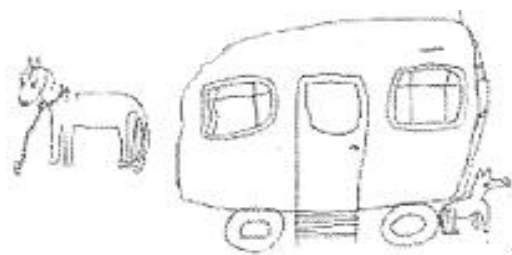


**APPENDIX 1
EAST SUSSEX TRAVELLER
EDUCATION TEAM IN
CONSORTIUM WITH
BRIGHTON & HOVE**



ANNUAL REPORT 2007/08 FOR BRIGHTON & HOVE

Context

The context remained similar to previous years - although a small number have moved into housing, the majority of Brighton & Hove's Travellers resorted to unauthorised encampments. However, the Horsdean Transit Site was refurbished and reopened in August 07 which has offered some accommodation stability for some groups. Since its reopening Horsdean has been occupied for periods of 3 months at a time by extended family groups of Irish Travellers. This longer temporary provision allows Traveller Education and other outreach service providers to better engage with families and to support their access into mainstream service provision

Additionally, between September 07-August 08, throughout the City there were a total of **60** unauthorised encampments in 30 locations - 34 of these encampments being Irish Travellers. 10 encampments being Gypsy Roma families, 11 New Travellers and 6 mixed groups. The average length of stay of each encampment was 17 days (but 35 encampments were less than 7 days).

With relatively short or insecure stopping patterns of unauthorised encampments, Traveller Education staff frequently encounter resistance from highly mobile families to placing their children in school, commenting "What's the point, we are leaving soon!" We estimate this reporting year that the percentage of highly mobile children we were able to engage in appropriate education was approximately 50% of the total visiting school aged population. A contributing factor, as well as high mobility, is that most secondary aged boys will be accompanying their fathers during the day, earning a living and older children are largely "hidden" from the system.

Support provision

For support arrangements and protocol ref document "Traveller Education Service Provision in Brighton & Hove"

Service Delivery 07/08

1. Advice, training and resources were delivered to the following:

- Early Years Network Conference (150 participants) - Hove Town Hall
- Advanced Early Years Students - Lecture on Meeting Needs of Traveller pupils in schools - Brighton University
- Yr 2 Trainee Teachers - Lecture on Meeting Needs of Traveller pupils in schools - Brighton University
- EAMAS - talk to team and demonstration of resources
- Headteachers Community Cohesion Conference - workshop delivered
- Lessons were planned (supporting the diversity curriculum) and modelled in 4 school settings = 7 lessons.
- 6 lessons modelled in local foundation stage settings using Persona Dolls (supporting early years diversity curriculum)

2. Outreach and Early Yrs provision (see attached report)

3. Projects

3.1 Gypsy Roma and Traveller (GRT) History Month

Traveller Education Team promoted the pilot Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month in June 07. This was an initiative promoted and funded by the DCSF to raise awareness of GRT history and culture and the contribution these groups have made to society over 500 years. 35 children in Brighton & Hove schools submitted posters for the GRT national poster competition and there were also 8 pre school posters submitted. Supporting this national competition, we held a local poster competition together with "an achievers award", storytelling session and tea party. This was a joint event covering Brighton & Hove and East Sussex and attended by over 70 local Traveller families.

We also secured funding from the DCSF, Brighton & Hove and East Sussex to make a film (working title - "This is Who I am") and covering some of the celebrations which took place nationally. This new film to be used for training purposes and as a new resource in schools from 2009

3.2. Curriculum Development

We have worked collaboratively with the PHSE - Healthy Schools Team to plan, and pilot a new KS1 resource on Traveller Awareness. Materials and lesson plans have now been produced and due to be piloted in local schools. This work to continue into 08-09.

3.2. Communication Review

During the reporting year, we have reviewed and revised the Brighton & Hove website on "Travellers"

3.3. Traveller Accommodation Communication Strategy

Throughout the year we have attended and contributed to these meetings and decisions.

4. Statistics for 2007/8

	Primary	Secondary	Total
Pupils enrolled in school all/part 07/08 <i>% attendance - actual/possible</i>	33 80%	16 76%	49
<i>Traveller Education Service (TES) supported pupils- teaching/welfare</i>	33	7	40
Schools with Traveller pupils	13	7	20
<i>Traveller Education Service (TES) supported schools</i>	13	3	16
Fairground/circus children supported with distance learning	7	1	8
Highly mobile children resorting to the area who we tried to engage but did not attend any school	17	9	26
<i>Education Other Than At School (EOTAS)</i>	0	1	1

Attainment in the national tests at age 11 (Year 6) and age 16 (Year 11)

Individual pupil Initials	Yr 6	School	English NC Level	Maths NC Level	Science NC Level
CG		Benfield Junior School	4	4	4
SL		Hertford Junior School	3	B	4
	Yr 11 Total Points awarded	GCSE grade	English	Maths	Science
BC	5	Hove Park	U	G	E
HH	21	Cardinal Newman	D	F	E

GRT children remain the lowest achieving of any identified group. Following the last Annual School Census, the DCSF are concerned that the attainment gap nationally between Gypsy/Roma and Travellers of Irish Heritage is widening. For example in 2007 at KS 2 English at level 4+ the gap between GRTs and the next minority ethnic groups was 45%. They are also the children who suffer the highest number of exclusions, and suffer the worst health. The causes of underachievement are multi faceted but lack of safe and secure accommodation is acknowledged as a major contributor. Policy and practice relating to meeting the needs of vulnerable groups need to take into account the status quo of our Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community and additional initiatives need to be put in place to reverse the downward trend. In our opinion there is a particular need for greater outreach provision to cover adult/family literacy, health education to include dental health and restoration of a peripatetic outreach health visitor.

Jackie Whitford
Co-ordinator, Traveller Education.
Nov 08