

# Supporting children in care



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London Borough of Hillingdon are Corporate Parents to Children in care and Care leavers. Of these a large proportion are unaccompanied asylum seekers many of whom have sought asylum from Muslim countries including Sudan, Iran, Afghanistan, Syria.

Unaccompanied Asylum seeking young people are estranged from their families and often isolated in the local community.

A significant number will have experienced childhood trauma and have lived in areas of conflict.

Children's services wanted to demonstrate to our Looked after children that we respect their individual beliefs, support them in practising their religion and actively promote this.



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Children's services developed a relationship with local charity Hillingdon Refugee Support Group. They work to bring, hope, dignity, and empowerment to unaccompanied refugees and asylum seekers aged 16-21 in Hillingdon.

A joint event was arranged to celebrate Eid with our young people. The planning of the event, including music, food and advertising was undertaken in consultation with young people from the Muslim community.

Young people regardless of ethnic origin or religious beliefs were invited together to share Eid.

The event was held at a local venue, with young people being supported to attend by their residential home/semi independent provision and social workers/personal advisors.

Gifts were provided to young people, alongside Halal catering.



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26 young people attended the event and got involved in dancing, games and sharing together how they celebrate Eid in their county of origin.

They said that they really enjoyed all the dancing and food.

Positive feedback was provided by them to their key workers and social workers.

The event was such a success that Children's Services have committed to marking Eid with an annual celebration event.



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