

Support for Early Years settings from EAL Portsmouth (EMAS)

EAL Portsmouth (EMAS) is a team of advisors and bilingual learning assistants (BLAs) from a range of language backgrounds. The service provides support to schools and early years settings based on the principle of ensuring inclusion and equal access to all learning experiences in a child's home language.

Currently we employ 28 Bilingual Learning Assistants (BLAs) who can support in 20 languages. The relevant referral form & pathway for referral can be found in the Early Years section on the PCC website. For regular bilingual support, priority will be given to children in their last year before they start school but we can provide one-off support for younger children and facilitate communication with parents. We can also provide short translations and interpret for parents at meetings with outside agency, e.g. Educational Psychologists.

As a traded service, the main work for EMAS is in schools so it might therefore not always be possible to immediately meet the needs of the child/ren in Early Years settings. However, we will endeavour to support in the best way we can.

For any further questions, please contact:

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