

Booking

For all services, schools and early years providers can reach us at:

linkworker@diversityvoice.org.uk
0300 075 0105

We work in education settings across the county.



Support for Polish speaking children in Somerset's schools and early years settings.

POLISH LINKWORKER SUPPORT

-  0300 075 0105
-  hello@diversityvoice.org.uk
-  www.facebook.com/diversityvoice
-  www.twitter.com/diversity_voice
-  www.diversityvoice.org.uk

Reg charity: 1162019 OISC reg: N201900030 UKRLP: 10054219



Diversity Voice
culture & community



naldic
National Association for Language Development in the Curriculum



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Polish Linkworker Support

Working with Somerset County Council, our bilingual staff work with schools, early years settings, children and parents, and other carers, across the county.

Aims

- Facilitate communication between parents and education settings
- Help children to overcome cross-cultural and language barriers, and develop bilingual language skills
- Provide feedback on children's language development and progress

Linkworkers

- Our staff are bilingual, and understand the barriers families may face
- Our education support team has over 40 years' experience between them. All have an enhanced DBS, and have completed level 2 child protection training, and PREVENT Duty and paediatric first aid training. They offer a great range of additional skills and knowledge, including working with children with special needs, and undertake regular CPD.

Costs:

- Fully funded for early years providers
- Chargeable for schools

Please see our bookings sheet for details of charges.

About Diversity Voice

Diversity Voice is a registered charity in Somerset. We champion intercultural understanding, provide support and services to prevent marginalisation, and work towards equality for all.

Most of our staff are migrants too, and our team works in multiple languages.

As well as working in schools and early years settings, we're an established part of the local voluntary sector and offer a great range of other support services to migrants and other minority cultural communities in Somerset.

Please pass our contacts on to any parents who might need our help.



How we can help

Attend class to support a child on a regular or short-term basis

Help with language and development assessments

Interpret at parent-teacher meetings and at enrolment

Translate forms, reports, welcome packs and other information

Explain differences between the Polish and British school and early years systems

Accompany a child on their first day to overcome initial barriers

Provide advice to your staff to overcome cross-cultural differences

Refer parents to our bilingual advice service, English lessons and more!

Booking Information



In-class support

We offer short-term and long-term in-class support. Most settings book for a morning or afternoon session once a week. We do our best to ensure the same support worker visits on each occasion.

Translations

We provide a fast turn around for all Polish translation requirements, with most documents being returned within 48 hours.

Interpreting

Interpreting for parent-teacher meetings can be arranged in-person, by telephone or through video conferencing.

Language assessments

A report on a child's understanding in both English and Polish can help to assess their ongoing support needs.

We can usually do this in one session, but might sometimes recommend a further visit.

Working with our support staff

We understand that every setting is different and are happy to accommodate your ways of working.

- The linkworker role is to provide support. We are happy to work 1:1 with children and plan activities, but linkworkers should not be booked in place of your existing team members and should not take sole responsibility.
- Please ensure support workers are informed about health & safety rules on arrival and, if applicable, provide them with a brief background on the child they will be working with.
- After their visit, linkworkers will ask you to complete a 1-minute feedback on a form using their phones.
- Our operations manager can help if you have enquiries during the term of our support, and can help with bookings and cancellations.
- We are delighted to have fantastic feedback from schools and early years providers over many years. Please bring any problems to the attention of our operations manager immediately so we can put things right straight away.

Fees

Early Years Providers:

All work for early years providers is fully funded.

Schools:

A fee of £38 per hour is payable for linkworker and interpreter support.

Translations are charged at £38 per 500 words.

Cancellations within 24 hours of attendance:

Support sessions – full fee due

Interpreting – 1 hour due

Translation work is commissioned upon receipt, and the full fee is due from that point.

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