

# Working with the children of asylum seekers and refugees

The Museum is always seeking to diversify its audience. Although it gets many school groups who are studying religion, the Museum felt that there was scope for addressing the History and Citizenship curricula. It was thought that the history of the Jewish community in Manchester, a refugee community in its time, could be usefully used to explore and reflect on the experiences of present day refugee children in the area.

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Students performing their poetry on the subject of refugees

We realised that there might be many problems working with these young people and so we contacted the Ethnic Minority Achievement Service in Manchester for their advice and assistance in reviewing the materials that we hoped to use with the pupils.

Taped testimonies were prepared for the children to listen to. In addition, worksheets were prepared for the pupils to use as they moved around the Museum.

Sixty year seven pupils from Abraham Moss High School made two visits to the Museum.

The visits were a success. The number of children with English as a second language caused some problems, as anticipated.

The resource was advertised to teachers of Citizenship and has resulted in further visits to the Museum.

**“I felt that my students gained an insight through this session that they could not have gained in the classroom.”**

Gail Maher, teacher, Fred Longworth High School.



Students prepare a piece of performance poetry on the subject of refugees