

# UNHCR Teaching for Refugees teacher training



Later in the year, the team behind A Day of Welcome are collaborating with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) to trial some online teacher training. We would like to invite you to join us in the second half of this autumn term for the UNHCR Teaching for Refugees online training programme.

## **Who is this training for?**

If you are interested in developing A Day of Welcome in your local area and/or developing your own teaching resources which explore local refugee history/experience, then this course will support you in that process.

If you are the lead practitioner at a school which is working towards, or has already achieved, the Schools of Sanctuary award this training is excellent preparation to carry out your role.

If you would like to participate please register by completing [this form](#).

If you have any questions or queries regarding the training please contact Jake Rose-Brown, Norfolk Schools of Sanctuary Lead at [jrose-brown@avenuejunior.org](mailto:jrose-brown@avenuejunior.org)

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This training is a collaboration between Anglia Ruskin University, Norfolk Schools of Sanctuary and UNHCR.



### **What are the details of the training?**

UNHCR's Teaching for Refugees training provides teachers in primary and secondary education a basic introduction to the subject of refugees, asylum and migration. You will be using a user-friendly online module to learn about the subject. You can read and watch most of the training materials in your own time. An instructor will be supporting you and will respond to questions online and in regular video sessions with fellow trainees. You will also get several homework assignments.

The UNHCR Teaching for Refugees training is being made available free of charge to schools and school networks in the UK. Training is largely self-paced and online so participants can plan around their work schedules. In total the training is estimated to take 6-8 hours and it will run over six weeks starting from the week beginning Monday 1st November 2021.

If you represent a network of schools and are interested in repeating this training in the future and delivering it yourselves, then the UNHCR have offered to train participants on the course as facilitators for future delivery. There will be no fee for training facilitators or for the future delivery of the Teaching for Refugees programme.

### **What does the training cover?**

This course will provide the basic knowledge and adequate training to work with refugee children. It will also support teachers to teach about the situation of refugees. Educating children and young people in the host community about the plight of refugees will foster a better understanding between the local community and the newcomers, which will improve chances of creating a harmonious and constructive learning environment in which all pupils can thrive.

The training consists of five modules:

- 1. Words matter.** You will learn about basic terminology on refugees, migrants, asylum-seekers and other categories of displaced people. You will be provided with tools and ideas on how to teach about this often very complex subject and you will get a global perspective on forced displacement in the world.
- 2. Know your local refugee situation.** You will learn how to examine and research the situation of refugees in your local community. You will find out how many refugees there are in your city or county and you will also have to look up relevant facts and figures and present these to your instructor and to trainees in your group.
- 3. With refugees in the classroom.** You will learn about the situation of displaced learners in their countries of origin and in other places. Teaching resources are often scarce and the curriculum and settings in which children learn can vastly differ from what you are used to. You will get an introduction to some approaches on teaching in diversity. At the end of the module, you will also be introduced to UNHCR's Teaching About Refugees catalogue of teaching materials you may use when teaching about the topic. This collection also includes guidance on working with language learners and with refugee children who may be suffering from stress and trauma.
- 4. Critical thinking about refugees.** You will learn how to critically look at media images and other information you may find on refugees. You will learn how to think critically about the origin of information about the topic and do a couple of exercises to vet and assess any materials that you may use in your lessons about refugees, asylum and migration, and in your work with refugee children.

**5. Building a resource catalogue.** In this module, you'll have a chance to review materials, research additional materials, and develop a personalized resource catalogue for supporting refugee students and families in your community, as well as teaching about the topic of refugees, asylum and migration. We'll explore some platforms and other options for compiling your resources and talk about how to share them with others, too.

If you have questions about the course content please contact Frederik Smets, UNHCR Education Officer for Europe, at [smets@unhcr.org](mailto:smets@unhcr.org)