

Making parents feel welcome

- Consider a home visit
- Welcome sign in many languages
- Remember that parents may have very different expectations of school and school life based on their experiences, e.g. some cultures 'hand over' their children to school and do not expect to be involved
- Remember that parents may be reluctant to visit school because of shyness or reluctance to speak English
- Explain letters verbally or use translations (Google Translate might be helpful with this)
- Encourage involvement and participation in school activities
- Encourage contact with other parents
- Show parent/carers how supported play activities can provide opportunities to model, rehearse and extend language
- Some school information is available in other languages, e.g. Learning Journey booklets. Schools may want to consider translating or using an interpreter (there may be a family member or friend who could help)
- Parents may want to be put in touch with ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) providers, e.g. local colleges