

Briefing Report to People Scrutiny Panel

Ethnic Minority Children Missing Education (CME)

11th November

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Definition

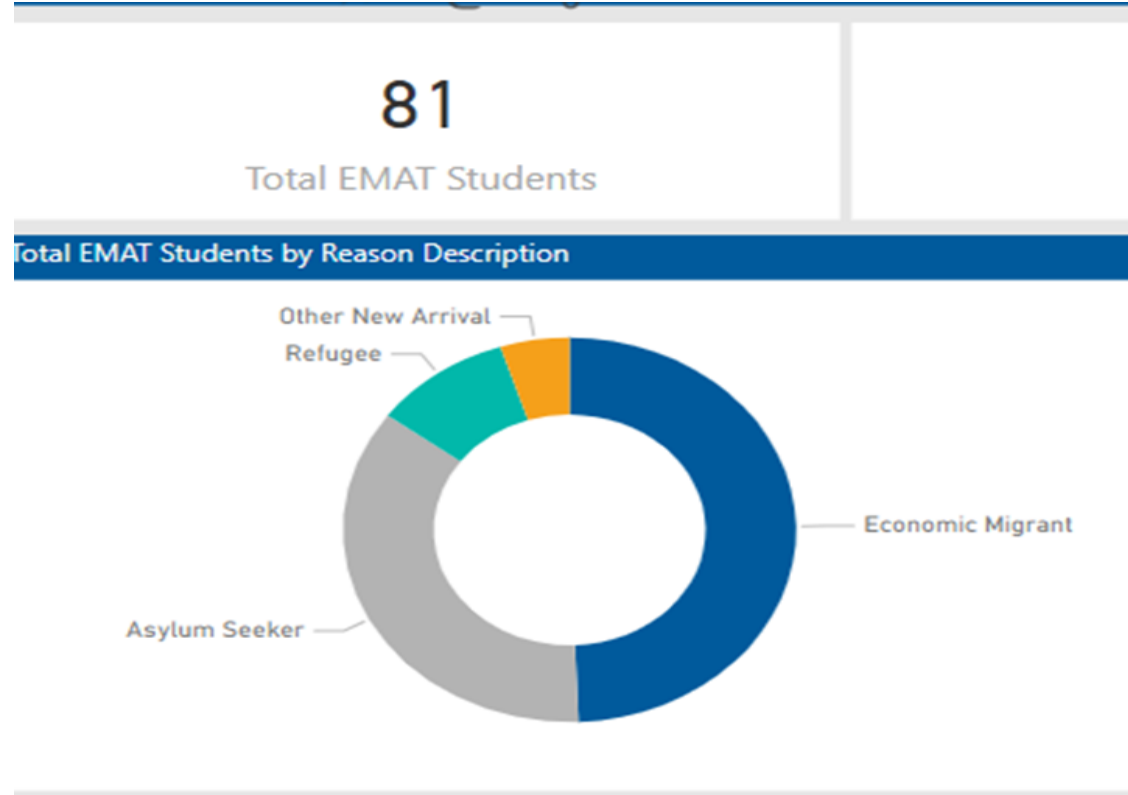
Children missing education (CME) is a term used by DfE to identify a particular subset of children who are at increased risk and are not attending school.

To be CME, children must satisfy all three of the following criteria:

- * be of compulsory school age
- * not be registered at a school
- * not be receiving suitable education otherwise than at a school

LA Responsibility

Challenges of transient communities and how the Ethnic Minority Achievement Team (EMAT) track and work with newly arrived families.



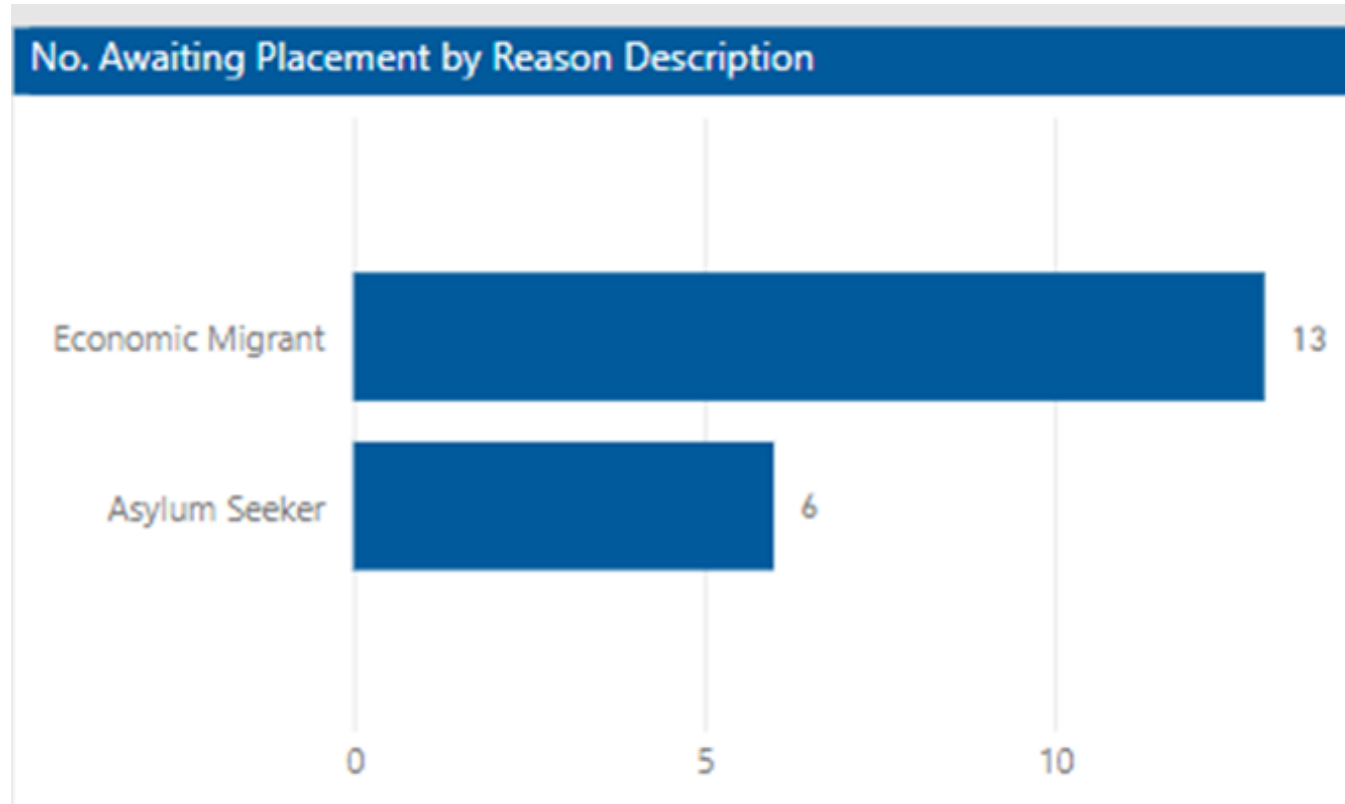
Children identified as CME and or persistent absent from school (Since 2 September 2024)

Regular home visits, Attendance Case Conference meetings (ACC), phone calls are conducted/held/made in collaboration with the Admissions and CME teams and partner schools. EMAT staff have a duty to capture evidence of these in a shared tracker which is continuously updated.

- Home visits – 38
- ACC meetings – 4
- Phone calls (attendance issues) – 50+

Children Awaiting School Places (CASP)

Data source: EMAT Dashboard (21/10/2024)



Reasons for delay

- Delayed responses from families
- Delays relating to the school process
- Appeals made by parents
- Delays in accessing school uniforms

Number of appeals (September to date) = 13 INA

3. Children who have recently arrived in the town and are awaiting a school place.

There is a shortage of primary school places in the town centre which can result in newly arrived children waiting for a suitable place to become available. There are sufficient places available for all of the children in Middlesbrough but sometimes families find it difficult to travel longer distances to attend school in other parts of the town.

In July we had 11 primary aged children who had been waiting for a place more than a month, but none who had been waiting more than 3 months.

There was around 45 secondary aged children waiting for places in July. The majority of these children had received offers of school places before the end of term.

Support for INA children attending partner schools (from September 2024)

EMAT is a buyback service, so in-school support is limited to partner schools and or Local Authorities. The partners are schools or LAs who would have signed up for EMAT services and agreed to our SLA. So far:

22 schools on EMAT SLA

1 LA on EMAT SLA (for Traveller Education Services)

5 Specialist or Bilingual Teaching Assistants deployed in schools – EAL support and TES support.

4 Family support workers (daily liaison between EMAT and schools – behaviour issues, PEX meetings, ACC, attendances, support FSM, school transport applications).

All 22 schools invited to sign up for LILAC and EAL Support training this academic year.

2 EAL Network meetings scheduled for this academic year (frequency agreed by EMAT and all partner schools).

24 strategic school visits (SLA/EMAT support meetings, ACC meetings, Initial school start date meetings, Pupil Progress Review meetings, EHCP meetings).

40 Traveller family children supported in Redcar and Cleveland through the TES Local Authority SLA.

30 Traveller family children supported in Middlesbrough Council through the TES Local Authority SLA.