

Education

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- Focus of research on:
- - Experiences of teachers and principals
- - Experiences of children
- - Experiences of parents

Issues for Teachers and Principals

- Professional training : in-service and pre-service
- Practical supports for management, teaching and learning
- Language support
- Co-ordination across services

- Everything is so new...all these cultures being introduced to me...I need more information and more understanding (Female teacher, Newdale Primary)
- what I think about the primary school is that it touches every family within the community because all children will come to a primary school – this is the one institution of the state where children from other countries and parents from other countries can be made welcome but there is still only so much given for resources, like for example we have no library, no staff room in terms of the infrastructure of the school – we are still limited. So we can only do limited amount in terms of initiatives (Principal Oakleaf primary)

Issues for children

- Language support
- Challenging teaching
- Peer relations, including racism
- Education for diversity

- I want to learn to speak languages and know more, I wouldn't really like it [learning Farsi] cos I want to learn English (Jacinta, Afghanistan, Oakleaf)
- In Lithuania they make you do everything much stronger (Ivan, Riverside primary)
 - It would be better to get teachers from different countries ...if the child speaks the same language as the teacher then they can help them better (Samuel, Oakleaf primary)
 - I would [like to] tell them songs and the way we dance, but we dance funny dances and they might laugh at me. (Pamela, Nigerian, Seaview)

- It's good having Maya in the class 'cos she's Egyptian and we are doing a project now on countries and she is helping us (David, Oakleaf primary)
- I like different people being in the school but I don't like them being in my class. It's very hard for the teacher because she has to teach students from another country instead of us (Mary, Riverside primary)
- It's quite hard to get to know them because they are so shy, especially the girls. They just stick to themselves (Female, Spireview secondary)

Issues for parents

- Hard to reach?
- Language
- Time
- Knowledge of the system
- Involvement in parent associations and Boards of management

- *Because you don't feel like you are welcome [...] so that would be why we would prefer to be in the shell and just be between your own community. There's a disadvantage to that but I don't know how we can change that. That might be part of the reason that we are not involved in the school activities.* (Nigerian father, Silverwood primary)
- *I chatted with teachers and it was such a good experience for me [...] they know me and they know we ate together and it was not once, it was three or four times. So it was like a wonderful experience for me so I felt more like family so I can go to anyone because they know me and I am not a stranger for them.* (Pakistani mother, Redford secondary)