How do you access this service?

If you are working with and/or are concerned about a GRT child, young person or family or think they may need some support please encourage the families to attend the relevant Drop-in Centre.

Area of Bristol	Support for…	Venue	Date
North	GRTs	St Anthony's Park, Transit Traveller Site (provided by Long Cross Children's Centre)	**Wednesday** 11am – 1:00 pm
North	GRTs	Upper Horfield Children's Centre	**Wednesday** 11am – 1:00 pm
East Central	GRTs	The Limes Children's Centre	**Wednesday** 1 – 3:00 pm
East Central	Romanian Roma	Wellsprings Healthy Living Centre	**Tuesdays** 1 - 3:00pm
South	GRTs	Compass Point Children's Centre	**Tuesday** 9:30 – 11:00am

The GRT Team needs your help in getting this information out to as many GRT families as possible so please share with colleagues who might work with GRT children, young people and families.

The drop-ins Aim to Provide:

- Free and confidential service for Gypsy and Travellers
- Information about services/Sign-posting
- Tenancy advice and support
- School placements and home education advice
- Family support and learning
- Benefits advice and support
- Postal support (form- filling)
- Support for families affected by domestic violence and abuse
- Support for families affected by parental imprisonment
- Health and well-being support / advice
- City-wide activities for children, young people and families
- Support for young carers

STAND AGAINST RACISM & INEQUALITY

Community Children's Health Partnership

Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Team

Bristol City Council
100 Temple Street
Bristol
BS1 6AG

Work Hours: Mon - Fri (9am - 5pm)

☎ 0117 922 4272

Out of Hours:

Emergency Control ☎ 0117 922 2050

First Response ☎ 01179036444

GRT Team Email and Website:

gypsies.travellers@bristol.gov.uk
www.bristol.gov.uk/grt

Read-easy online directory for GRT families:

www.grtbristol.com

Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Team

Community Children's Health Partnership

STAND AGAINST RACISM & INEQUALITY

Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Team

Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Inter-agency Team

What is the Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Inter-agency Support?

The Gypsy, Roma, Traveller (GRT) Inter-agency Team includes partners from Bristol City Council's Housing Solutions, Additional Learning Needs Team, key local Children's Centres, NHS's NBT as well as other relevant agencies. This inter-agency Team has a statutory duty to improve GRT outcomes. This is achieved by adopting city-wide objectives in addressing the needs and priorities of the different GRT communities. This better coordinated approach means that significantly more GRT children and families will receive the right help, in the right place, at the right time.

What support do we offer?

Bristol is a multicultural and diverse city with a long and rich history of Gypsy and Traveller people. The Gypsy, Roma, Traveller (GRT) Team acknowledges the important role it has in celebrating GRT history and culture but also in challenging prejudice and discrimination in order to improve opportunities and achievement of GRT communities.

Education: GRT children, as with all other children, are legally entitled to have unhindered and full access to education and should be afforded opportunities that will enable them to thrive and live happy and healthy lives. For nomadic Traveller families the Education Act of 1981 states that:

"It is the duty of the local authority to provide full-time education for pupils who […] are temporarily living in the area for long enough to be practical to attend school (e.g. the child of a Traveller)".

However, there are several barriers schools and other professionals must first consider when it comes to GRT educational outcomes.

One of the primary responsibilities of the GRT Education Liaison Officer is to work between families, communities and schools in helping them identify and navigate these barriers by ensuring:

- Schools are culturally equipped to understand GRT needs, concerns and priorities;
- Multi-agency partnership work in developing targeted GRT support and providing free training;
- Families with school registration;
- Promotion of GRT identity and ascription in schools;
- Use of distance learning / learning agreements as an educational continuity strategy;
- Promote and improve parental engagement;
- Prevent barriers to education (i.e. bullying, discrimination, literacy issues, cultural issues, etc.)

Service Coordinator/Education Lead: Heather Mundy

☎ 0117 922 4770
☎ 07879117779
💻 Heather.mundy@bristol.gov.uk

Health: The Inter-agency GRT Team also includes a Specialist Health Visitor for GRTs. This role aims to address the specific health needs identified by both the settled and nomadic GRT communities, particularly (but not exclusively) parents, parents-to-be, carers of under-fives and under-fives.

This post is unique to Bristol because it takes a whole-family approach to improving the health and wellbeing of GRT families by:

- Taking a whole family approach to health support;
- Visiting families wherever they are in Bristol;
- Acting as the lead Health Visitor for other four Health Visitors who are co-located in our children's centres providing the GRT drop-in service.
- Supporting mainstream health visiting team in visiting settled families;
- Raising awareness of GRT culture and delivering training;
- Raising GRT health issues on both strategic / local levels.

Specialist GRT Health Visitor: Stephanie Lovell

☎ 0117 9500844
💻 Stephanie.Lovell@cchp.nhs.uk

Specialist GRT Health Visitors are co-located in all of our Children's Centres that offer the GRT Drop-in service (see back for details)

Housing: GRT Site Manager and Community Liaison Officer role involves operating and managing Bristol's permanent and transit sites, identifying ways to improve GRT sites, as well as seeking opportunities to develop new sites in Bristol. Additionally this role provides support to local community's members and families regarding accommodation needs.

Other responsibilities include:

- Devising interventions to control unauthorised encampments;
- Collating and disseminating information regarding encampments to ensure relevant services are aware;
- Facilitating support and encouraging initiatives of GRT participation in service delivery issues.

GRT Site Manager & Community Liaison: Steve Hearsey

☎ 0117 9224272

💻 steven.hearsey@bristol.gov.uk