



# THE GOOD SHEPHERD CENTRE

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# Centre of Good Practice for New Arrivals Keighley

Opened September 2015 - **DRAFT OFFER March 2016**



Based at: St Anne's Catholic Primary School and Nursery,  
A Voluntary Academy,  
North Street, Keighley, BD213AD.  
Phone: 01535 210600  
Email: [platad@stannesrc.org.uk](mailto:platad@stannesrc.org.uk)

## Our Vision

A centre where new arrivals to our country, including the Roma community, feel safe, able and willing to integrate with the wider community. A place for advice, advocacy and support, where their children will have a chance to flourish from an early age with no barriers to learning or inequality in opportunity.

## Introduction

Over the last few years school and church have developed a strong relationship with the local community, and this is a great opportunity to now create a local hub for all. **The Good Shepherd Centre** project was developed because of the increasing number of migrants arriving in Keighley and making Keighley and St Anne's school and parish their home. St Anne's school now has about a third of its children of ethnic white British heritage, a third Mirpuri Pakistani heritage and a third with an Eastern European heritage. We think this balanced diversity gives the children great opportunity for understanding community and cultural cohesion.

Families were coming to the area with many issues and problems relating to children's education, health and this was compounded by language barriers, and a lack of knowledge and understanding about how services are run in England- e.g. schools usually start at age 7 in Eastern Europe and not age 5 or earlier as in the UK. This in itself has often been difficult for parents to adjust to.

## Healthy Diet and Oral Health



Knowledge about what constitutes a healthy diet can be a problem for our families, so we have tried to educate through fun sessions. There is also sometimes a mistrust of authority figures. Many of the families we support are from Roma backgrounds and may have been discriminated against for centuries in their countries of origin. This can create a mistrust of services and they are often scared and anxious when it comes to organisations there to support them.

We were seeing all of these and many more complex issues at school on a daily basis and often we had crowded corridors with families wanting advice and support. This advice and support came initially from multilingual member of staff with a range of language skills, who has built up trust with the families. Now we are able to assist many families on a daily basis in our centre. We assist during the week, on weekends and evenings, as families are still call for advice and support.

As **The Good Shepherd Centre** project developed, access was made available not just for families whose children attended St Anne's school but to all new arriving families across Keighley. The demands being made upon the Good Shepherd Centre are now so great that our key member of staff is supported by a team of volunteers, most of whom spend whole days advising and offering valuable support at the Centre for the needy and vulnerable.

We work directly with people who

- Are at the margins of society so we provide positive changes in people's lives and in their communities.
- We support our parents in completing the Pre School, Primary and Secondary School admission forms
- We offer support with transition into school, organising coffee mornings and regular meeting with other professionals.
- We make sure that parents understand the requirements of the Primary School such as: uniform, daily routines and attendance.
- We promote community cohesion encouraging shared activities and opportunities for all community groups.
- We work closely with a wide range of agencies and practitioners: Police, Social Services, Children's Centre, Health Visitors, Domestic Violence Team and Councillors.
- We have a regular contact with local schools where when requested we undertake home visits, going to a doctor's

appointments, offer support, give advice or direct families to a range of other agencies.

## Activities at The Good Shepherd Centre

**English Classes** (**FREE**) for Young People and Parents every Wednesday 12.30 -14.30



**Mothers & Toddlers** sessions every Friday 9.00 - 11.00.



**After School Clubs for children**  
every Wednesday and Thursday 15.30 -16.30



**SCHOLA**  
**Children's Choir**



## **Coffee Mornings on Thursday or Friday**

(We also help to organise these at other schools in the area.)

### **Parents in Partnership**



**Everybody WELCOME !!!**

### **The Good Shepherd Centre of Good Practice**

**targets supporting the most vulnerable children by:**

- Direct teaching support for NTE pupils
- Supporting pupils in class
- Mentoring for pupils
- Guidance and advice on welcoming Traveller families into school
- A book box of resources for other schools to view
- Support for home visiting
- Support in improving attendance
- Support children transferring from Primary or Secondary School

- Maintaining the good attendance of New arrivals.

### **Our good practice in welcoming NTE/NA pupils in class:**

- ✓ Pupils are given a buddy who looks after them, especially at break times and explains school routines and rules.
- ✓ Pupils are paired with others by the teacher in the classroom; offering peer support for their learning.
- ✓ We have a flexible approach and can allow the older siblings to stay with the younger ones while they settle in
- ✓ We have bi and trilingual staff in Nursery and Reception, a full time Community Support Worker running [The Good Shepherd Centre](#) and two, language support learning assistants supporting across the school.
- ✓ We are a NASSEA school partnership gold school and host training by The Northern association of Support Services for Equality and Achievement for other schools.

✓ We offer NASSEA materials and resources plus professional advice on developing provision through NASSEA principals.

**At St Anne's School and  
The Good Shepherd Centre**

**We encourage everyone to live by our gospel values  
and**

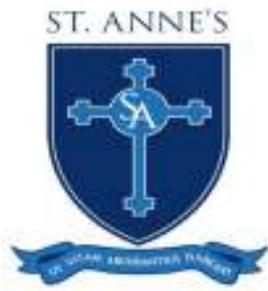
***"Love one another  
as I have loved you"***

*John 13, 34*

For practical help and advice on supporting New to English and New Arrival pupils and their families or

If you are interested in anything detailed in this leaflet, **please contact us on the details below. Call us or send an email and we will be in touch.**





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