**[Why it is important that Gypsy Roma Travellers correctly ascribe their ethnicity](https://bso.bradford.gov.uk/Schools/CMSPage.aspx?mid=170" \l "Ascription)**

There are no inherent reasons why a child from a Gypsy, Roma or Traveller community should not achieve as well as any other child

High quality teaching and effective Assessment for Learning (AFL), plus appropriate specialist interventions, supported by school leaders, are key factors in improving the achievement of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children and young people, as groups and as individuals

Achievement will only occur through the combined efforts of school, child and home.

The importance of correct self-ascription

It is important to help and encourage families from these groups to ascribe their ethnicity correctly. If schools are unable to collect correct ascription data for these minority ethnic groups then you will find it harder to prove the good work you will be doing with these groups by comparing your results nationally.

Children learn better if they feel confident to say what their background is and past experience is often used by children to further their learning, this will not happen as well if they feel they are hiding their past.

The difficulty in encouraging many families to correctly ascribe is their fear of authority and the expectation that they may be discriminated against; our role is to get these families to trust schools and the local education authority and in turn help the children reach higher standards in their education.

Schools will be asked by OFSTED to show the progress of their vulnerable groups or "groups of pupils", you will not be able to do this effectively if you do not know who these vulnerable groups are. Attainment data from your Gypsy Roma Traveller groups will be compared with national results rather than local results; Gypsy Roma Travellers who ascribe as "White other" will be compared with national results, but this could have a negative effect as "White other" tend to do better than Gypsy Roma Traveller groups.

How to improve your school's ascription data DVD - Please ring 01274 439393 to have a copy posted to your school.

You can use the following information to help Czech, Slovak and Polish parents and children correctly ascribe their ethnicity, the parents can read it or you can get your interpreter to read it for them.

[Ethnic Origin Card - Czech](https://bso.bradford.gov.uk/userfiles/Stuart/Ethnic%20origin%20card/Czech%20version%20ethnic%20orgin%20card.doc)
[Ethnic Origin Card - Slovak](https://bso.bradford.gov.uk/userfiles/Stuart/Ethnic%20origin%20card/Slovak%20version%20ethnic%20orgin%20card.doc)
[Ethnic Origin Card - Polish](https://bso.bradford.gov.uk/userfiles/Stuart/Ethnic%20origin%20card/Polish%20version%20ethnic%20orgin%20card.doc)

We offer free awareness and ascription training to Teaching and Office staff. Please call Stuart on 01274 439393 to discuss your requirements.