



ETHNIC MINORITY  
ACHIEVEMENT SERVICE

## Coventry Local Lead

### Schools of Sanctuary Offer 2026-2027

Schools of Sanctuary is a UK-wide programme and award scheme to support schools to play their part in building a culture of welcome for everyone, but particularly people seeking sanctuary.

Please find below our local programme of FREE School of Sanctuary activities available to interested schools.

The first step for any school interested in becoming a School of Sanctuary is to [sign the supporting organisation pledge](#). We advise that a school takes at least a whole school year after this point before submitting an application.

What?	When?	Where?	Who?
An introduction to Schools of Sanctuary – process, application and award	<a href="#">Resources - Schools of Sanctuary</a>  Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> September 2026 4pm – 5pm	Online	Coventry EMAS
Speak up for Sanctuary Central CPD	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> November 1:15- 3pm,	Council House Diamond Room 5	Coventry EMAS
Online Training for Panel Members and Local Leads	TBC	Online	School of Sanctuary
Schools of Sanctuary – network meeting of local schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2026, 4-5:30pm – venue TBC</li> <li>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2027, 4-5:30pm – venue TBC</li> <li>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2027, 4-5:30pm – venue TBC</li> </ul>	In person	Coventry EMAS
Schools catch up meeting to share progress, review audit and action planning	As and when requested	In person at school	Coventry EMAS
Refugee Week: Planning and Inspiration Central CPD	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2027	Online	Coventry EMAS
IRC Healing Classrooms - training to support schools to develop inclusive and nurturing learning spaces	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2027	In person TBC	Coventry EMAS
Day of Welcome Refugee Week	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> June 2027	In school workshops and visits	Schools



For any enquiries about the Schools of Sanctuary Award process in Coventry please contact: [emasteachers@coventry.sch.uk](mailto:emasteachers@coventry.sch.uk)



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## Coventry Schools of Sanctuary

		Accreditation Timeline
Suggested timeline = one year	Step 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Express interest in Schools of Sanctuary accreditation to Coventry EMAS local leads</li> <li>Secure commitment and support from SLT and governors towards becoming a SOS.</li> <li>Make your pledge <a href="#">City of Sanctuary organisational pledge</a>.</li> <li>Register for SOS newsletter, follow on social media.</li> <li>Complete audit of existing provision - review what your school already has in place or has done to date to meet the award criteria (Learn, Embed, Share) using the audit tool to help you reflect on relevant areas of practice. <a href="#">Resources</a></li> </ul>
	Step 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a School of Sanctuary Action Plan using the <a href="#">resource pack</a>, <a href="#">website</a> and <a href="#">Coventry SoS Padlet</a> for inspiration, with support from local leads. This should include evidence of sanctuary-seeker experience and forced migration within different areas of the school's curriculum i.e. different subjects, year groups, activities.</li> <li>Plan how you will mark Refugee Week and other key campaigns.</li> <li>Sign up to local and national SOS networking and CPD events</li> <li>Make links with local sanctuary seeking organisations e.g. CRMC, Carriers of Hope and non-sanctuary seeking organisations e.g. churches, libraries, theatres to share message of welcome.</li> </ul>
	Step 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete and submit draft application to local lead, evidencing the 8 minimum criteria (LEARN, EMBED, SHARE). Use the application guidance to help you and have a look at the example applications. <a href="#">Resources by Friday 25th March 2027</a></li> <li>Sanctuary appraisal panel to meet and assess draft applications <b>on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2027</b>.</li> <li>Your application will be reviewed by local leads and feedback given.</li> <li>School responds to feedback – provide additional evidence as needed.</li> </ul>
	Step 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final application and portfolio of evidence submitted to SOS local leads and sanctuary appraisal panel <b>by Friday 28th May 2027</b></li> <li>Sanctuary appraisal panel to meet and assess applications <b>on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2027</b></li> <li>School visits – opportunity for assessors to meet with pupils, teachers, leadership and parents during <b>Summer 2 half-term</b>.</li> <li>Feedback given to schools – by start of <b>Autumn 1 2027</b>.</li> <li>Schools of Sanctuary status is awarded - presentation and celebration event to be arranged with EMAS.</li> <li>Share your news far and wide.</li> </ul>
	Step 5	<p>After 3 years renew your pledge and status as a SOS. Renewal applications to be submitted <b>by Friday 22nd January 2027</b>.</p>