

Activity Sheet 1.8

Characters for Dover Role-Play

Character 1: Owner of a local hotel

You are happy because you have managed to rent all your rooms to asylum seekers all the time through the winter, when you are usually not very busy.

Most of the people in your hotel seem OK, but you are a little concerned that they don't seem to mix with locals – they mainly spend time with other asylum seekers who speak the same language.

Character 2: Local school headteacher

Your staff don't feel able to do much for the children of asylum-seeking families. They have not had much experience of teaching students whose first language is not English.

Apart from this you are concerned about making your exam results look worse. So far you have resisted accepting many of these newly arrived children.

Character 3: Local volunteer with Kent Refugee Action Network

You are keen to work with other people throughout the area whether they have been here for years or have just arrived. You can understand some of their worries and the mistrust that exists but want to help people to overcome this.

Character 4: Local person who wants the refugees moved on

You lost your job in the mines years ago and since then times have been hard. You have read about these newly arrived asylum seekers getting benefits and free accommodation and you don't like the fact that they seem to get something for nothing.

Character 5: Young asylum seeker

You suffered discrimination at school in your home country – many Roma children were put in separate schools because people assumed they couldn't keep up with mainstream school.

You are keen to get back into a school and you need to get some help to learn English.

Character 6: Asylum-seeking adult

You have left your country because you have finally had enough of the racism and discrimination you have suffered over the years. You hope that you will be able to get a job soon so you can build a better life for your family. You spend most of your time with other people in the same situation – it's easier to talk when you share a language and the same experiences.

