



IDENTIFYING STUDENTS AND FAMILIES OF REFUGEE BACKGROUNDS

You can ensure adequate supports are in place by identifying students and families of refugee backgrounds at enrolment, including those seeking asylum.

Foundation House identifies 'students of refugee backgrounds' as:

- » Children and young people found to be refugees (as legally defined) prior to arriving in Australia under the Humanitarian program;
- » Children and young people seeking asylum who arrive in Australia (usually with families) and subsequently apply for protection as refugees;
- » Children and young people who have suffered persecution in their country of nationality or usual residence, and arrived in Australia under another migration program (refugee-like background)
- » Australian-born children and young people whose immediate family members fled persecution eg. parents/carers. (intergenerational refugee background)

People who have been in Australia for some time may not want to identify themselves as refugees or want to present visa number details. You can identify students of refugee backgrounds by collecting basic information about the family without asking intrusive questions.

There are simple indicators that a student may be of a 'refugee background' or 'refugee-like background':

- » Country of origin (for students, parents and carers)
- » If a family's country of origin has a history of conflict and human rights violations, eg. Afghanistan or Myanmar, the student is likely to be of refugee background
- » Country where student and/or family lived immediately prior to arriving in Australia
- » Students may have been born or spent many years in a first country of asylum, for example Kenya, Pakistan, Egypt, Thailand or Malaysia, which can also suggest a refugee background
- » Exit reports and communication with the previous school
- » Year of arrival in Australia
- » Preferred language
- » Visa subclass (permanent visa Humanitarian entrant: 200, 202, 204, 866; and asylum seekers with temporary visa: 785, 790)

