

The top half of the image features a decorative banner. On the left, the word "ACERT." is written in a bold, red, sans-serif font with a white outline. To its right is a small, square, yellow-framed picture of a desk with a laptop and a red apple. Further right is a larger, rectangular, yellow-framed photograph of a group of five people (three adults and two children) standing outdoors in front of a white building. The background of the banner is a light pinkish-beige with large, stylized, dark red wheel-like shapes and splatters. A large, dark red wheel-like shape is prominent in the lower-left corner of the banner area.

ACERT.

ACERT Annual General Meeting

2nd October 2025

18:30-19:30

Agenda

- Attendance
- Apologies
- Minutes of previous AGM
- Treasurer's report
- Chair's report by Co-Chair Candace Thomas
- Election of Officers
- Election of Executive Committee
- ACERT AGM Presentation Forward Planning 2025/26
- Any other business



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ACERT AGM Presentation Forward Planning 2025/26

Introduction

- Overview of ACERT's mission and purpose
- Commitment to Gypsy, Roma, Traveller, Showmen & Boater communities
- Building on the past year's work



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Conference Planning

- No conference last year to allow focus on **internal restructuring**
- Plans underway for **ACERT Conference 2026**
- Theme and location still to be confirmed
- Annual conference remains a key space for **networking & learning**
- Commitment to improved **hybrid formats** for wider access

Future Focus:

- Strengthen **community-led sessions**
- Build stronger **youth participation**
- Collaborate with **partner organisations** on content and delivery

Candace



Education Network

- Platform for **teachers, practitioners, and community voices**
- Ongoing structure for **sharing resources and good practice**
- ACERT can build on **contacts across the UK** to strengthen reach.
- **Future Focus:**
 - Idea: **rotating hosts** from the Network to highlight local issues, role models, and exemplary practice, with members sharing updates from schools or communities (support needed to identify suitable contacts).
 - Re-establish **regular meetings** post-election
 - Prioritise **curriculum inclusion** and **anti-racism** in schools
 - Strengthen links across teachers, practitioners, parents & communities



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Higher & Further Education Forum (name tbc)



- New ACERT team to build on work like the **GTRSB Pledge**
- Main Focus: **decolonising HE & FE spaces** + promoting **ethical research**
- Regular meetings where researchers present & gain community/professional feedback (with ACERT endorsement)

Future Focus

- Strengthen links between academia & community
- Ensure GRT learners & professionals are supported, included & respected
- Promote inclusive, accountable approaches in education & research

ACERT Youth Projects (Ideas & Suggestions)

Potential projects to empower Traveller youth through creative media, STEM, and community engagement:

- **Film & Media:** Work with Lisa Smith & Traveller Times to teach film-making and creative storytelling, enabling youth to advocate for their community and build cultural pride
- **STEM Projects:** Explore initiatives led by Marie Bowers in partnership with Science Travels, offering hands-on workshops in science, technology, engineering, and maths
- **Possible Partnership w/Home ED Networks:** Esther Stubbs to explore working with Jolene Chisolm to have start other drop ins for parents/students needing support accessing education.
- **New Partnerships w/existing youth projects:** Opportunities for projects led by Candace Thomas to develop further youth engagement initiatives

ACERT Youth Projects (Ideas & Suggestions) cont.

Consider Establishing a Youth Council:

- Offer **mentorship opportunities**, support skill development, and facilitate engagement with policymakers through workshops and conferences.
- Utilise **participant feedback** to inform council initiatives; schedule regular meetings that include Executive Committee members.

Community Engagement



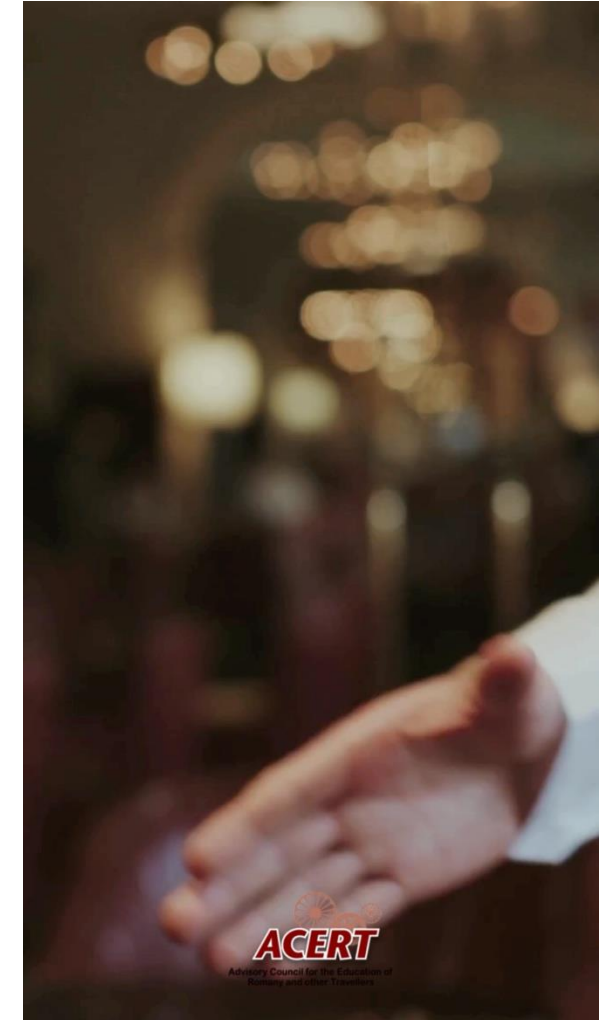
Discussion



How would you suggest
ACERT better engage with
our communities?

Media & Marketing

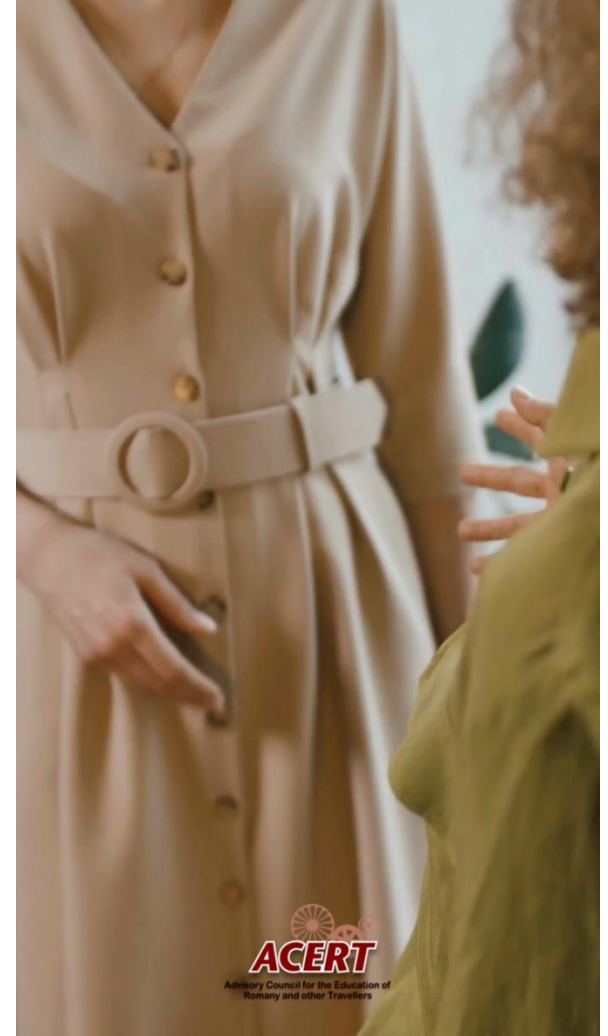
- Continue to manage ACERT's social media across Facebook (group & page), X, and Instagram
- Develop and implement content strategies highlighting ACERT's mission, events, and success stories
- Coordinate media coverage, press releases, and newsletters to showcase ACERT's work
- Maintain liaison with other groups to ensure content is accurate, relevant, and up-to-date.
- Launch the ACERT Podcast, sharing stories, interviews, and community initiatives



Media & Marketing cont.

Future Focus

- Brian and Marie to update and relaunch the ACERT website
- Plan to launch Series 2 of the ACERT Podcast to continue highlighting community stories and initiatives
- Continue to strengthen online presence and engagement with supporters and stakeholders
- Foster a supportive, informed, and engaged community through consistent and high-quality communications
- Support our Social Media!!



Fundraising

- Explore various fundraising avenues, including **grant applications, individual donations, and crowdfunding campaigns**
- Create compelling materials to communicate the **impact of ACERT's work** and inspire potential donors
- Manage **membership fees** and work to increase membership
- Clearly communicate the **benefits of membership**, including updates, special event invitations, involvement opportunities, and ACERT logo endorsement
- ACERT **open to partnerships** and joint grant applications!

Future Focus

- Increase fundraising efforts to **sustain and expand ACERT's work**
- Grow membership and enhance member engagement
- Ensure fundraising materials and communications are **inclusive, clear, and impactful**



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