

STEP

**Supporting equitable access to
education for traditionally
nomadic communities**

STEP PROJECT COORDINATOR
Dr Pauline Duncan

PRESENTED TO:
ACERT education network meeting Feb 2026

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Knowledge exchange Centre at Moray House School of Education and Sport, University of Edinburgh, Scotland

Funded by the Scottish Government Equalities and Human Rights and Learning Directorates

We support education leaders, practitioners, and families to ensure that education is accessible, culturally-sustaining and has the highest expectations for all children and young people from traditionally nomadic cultures in Scotland.

Working with communities, local authorities and other agencies is central to the success of our work.

01 Policy influence

Policy makers know more about the issues and incorporate that knowledge into their policies and plans.

02 Community intervention

Programmes that improve participation via culturally-sustaining education models, information sharing and knowledge-informed empowerment

03 Professional learning

TENET, ITE, promoting anti-racist education, cultural awareness raising, inclusive policy development, strategies for supporting in education.



Policy & guidance

[Improving Educational Outcomes for children for children and young people from travelling cultures: guidance \(2018\)](#)

STEP [Practitioner Toolkit](#)

[Gypsy/Traveller action Plan 24-26](#) is the second joint national action plan between the Scottish Government and COSLA (Convention of Scottish Local Authorities).

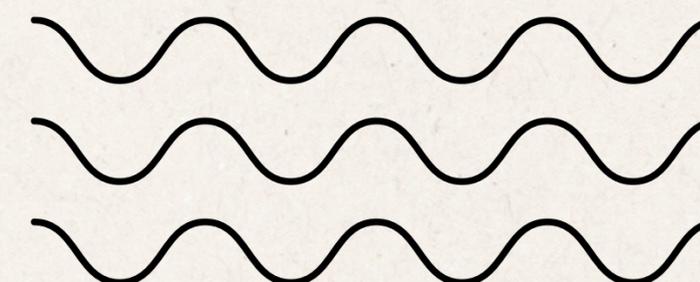
[Race Equality Framework for Scotland 2016-2030](#)

[HMIE \(His Majesty's Inspectors of Education\)](#) (part of Education Scotland)

[Education \(Additional Support for Learning\) \(Scotland\) Act 2004](#)

[Additional Support for Learning Progress Report 2024](#)

Included, engaged and involved: [A Positive Approach to the Promotion and Management of Attendance in Scottish Schools](#)

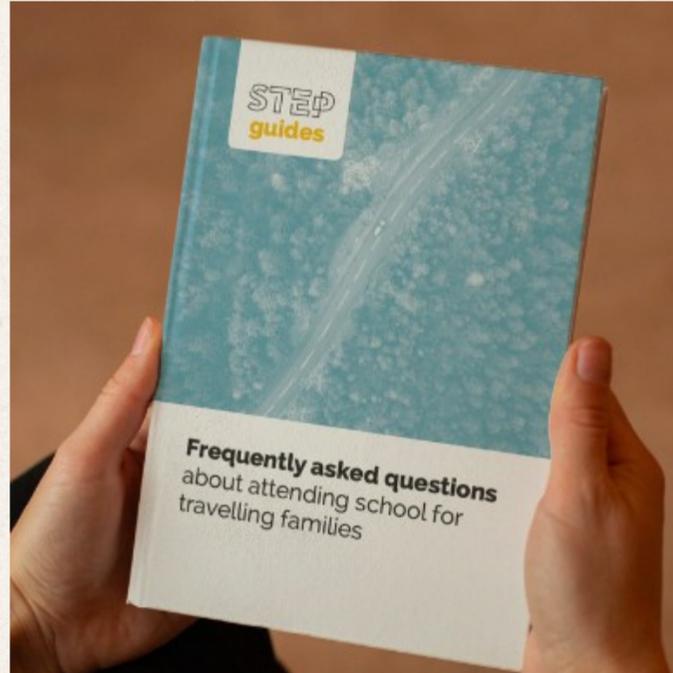


**Community
produced cultural
resources and
education
programmes**

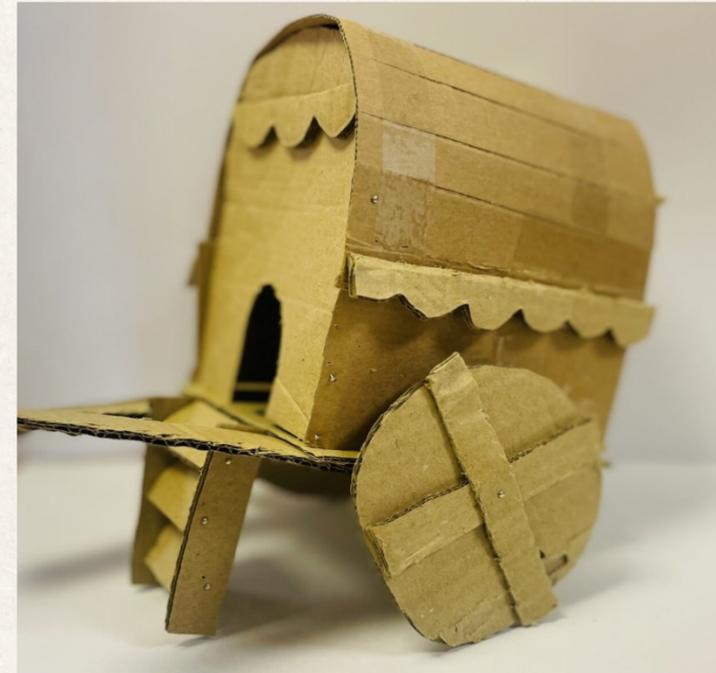
Our resources



Community voice video
[Community voices](#)



Attendance & travelling guide
[FAQ](#)



Community art gallery
[Digital gallery](#)



Counting with pictures
[Family activity cards](#)

Our resources



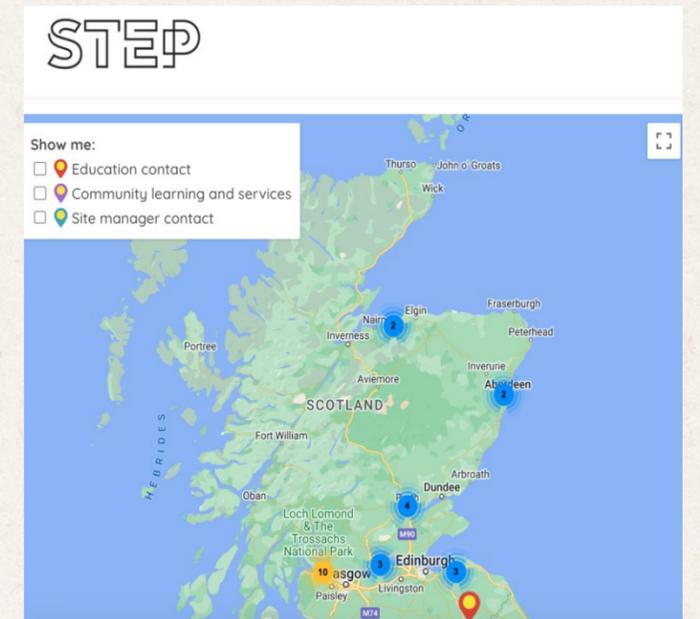
STEP family learning app
[STEP App](#)



Early years resources
[Early learning](#)



Young voices on rights
[Young voices](#)



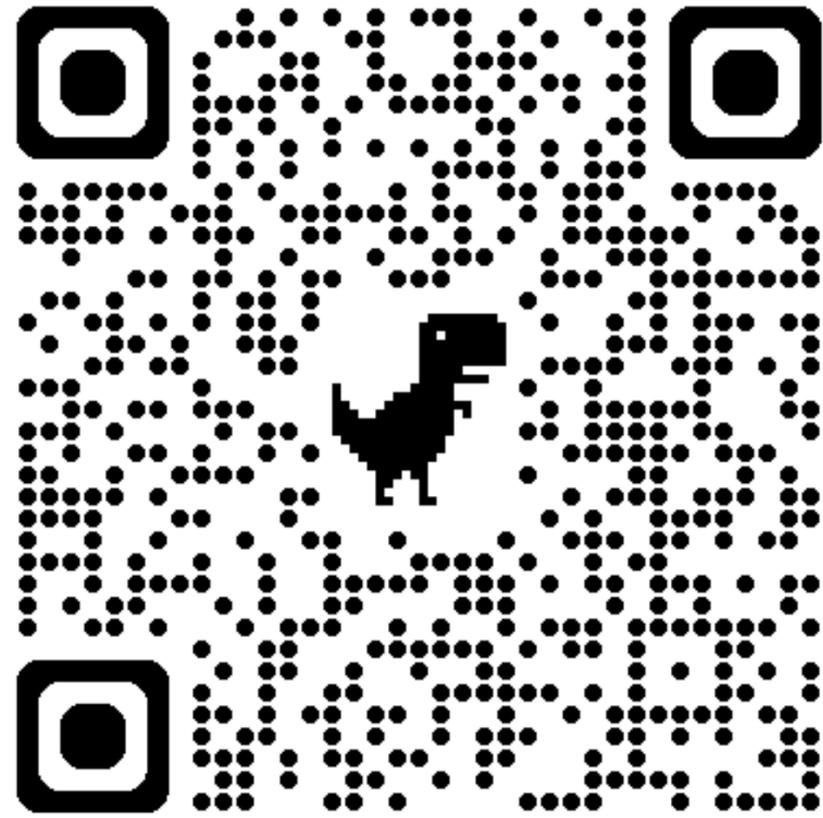
Local authority contacts
[Map](#)



Digital Transitions Programme



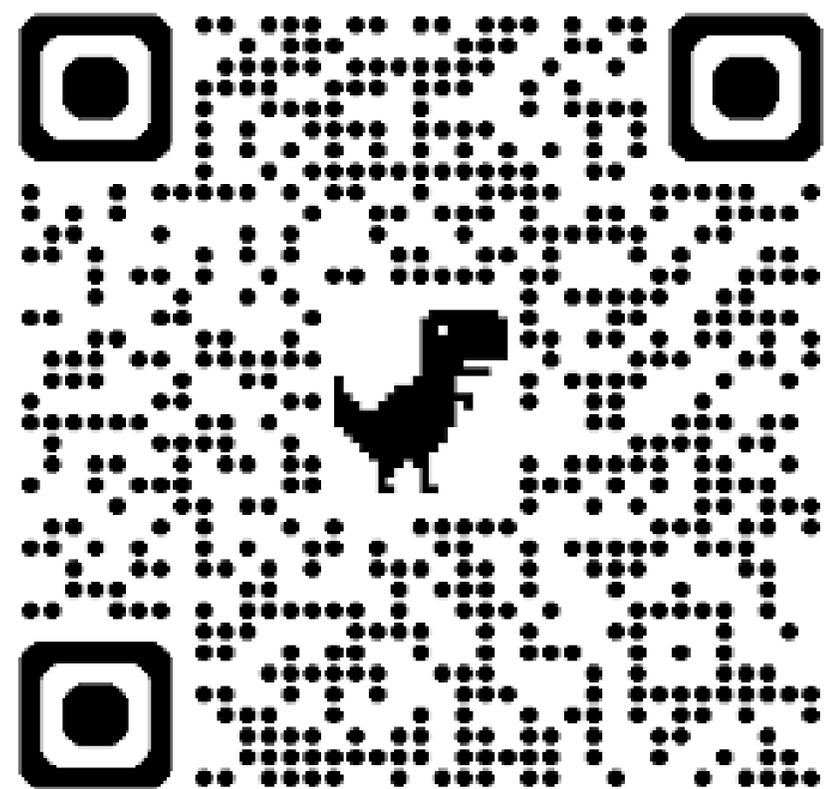
Supporting flexible culturally-sustaining learning for Gypsy/Traveller and Roma young people



**School Pledge to
Gypsy/Traveller
and Roma
communities**



Improving access, retention and outcomes in education for children and young people



STEP Starter Sack Programme



Supporting Gypsy/Traveller and Roma children into early learning and childcare



TENET (Traveller Educator Network)



Working in collaboration with Scotland's local authorities and partner organisations



Training and professional learning



Promoting anti-racist education & principles, cultural awareness raising, inclusive policy development, meeting additional support needs, strategies for supporting Gypsy/Traveller & Roma families in education.

Thank you

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