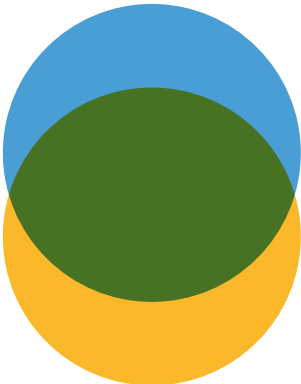
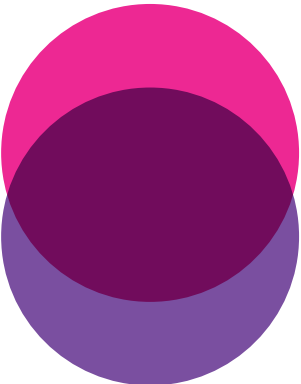
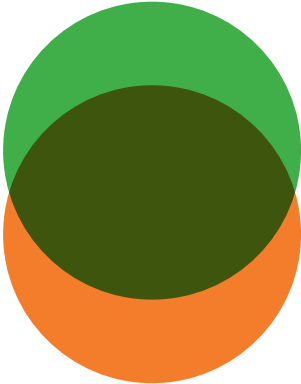
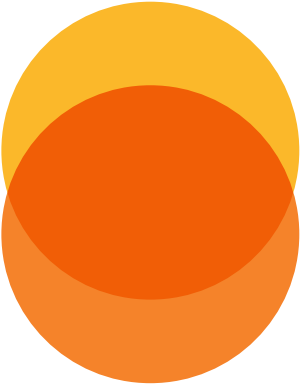
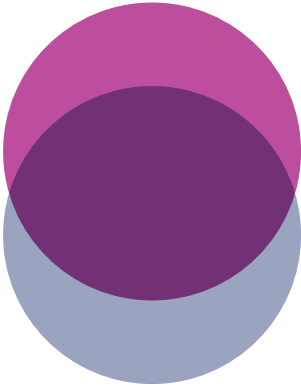
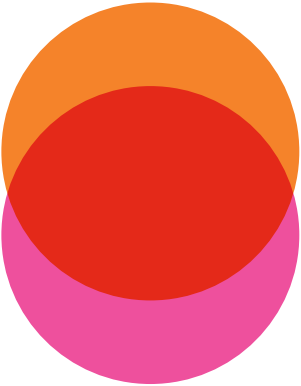


A guide
to our
services

REFUGEE
ACTION
KINGSTON



Welcome to Refugee Action Kingston

We've supported refugees and asylum-seekers in our area for over 30 years.

Each year, we help over 1,000 clients with:

- Legal advice
- Counselling
- English language skills
- Housing, health and education
- Career services
- Volunteering opportunities

This document offers more information about our services. We're able to support refugees and asylum-seekers living in Kingston, Richmond, Merton, Sutton, and Wandsworth. Refugees and asylum-seekers who reside in other boroughs or areas will be signposted to alternative support services near to them.

For more information about what we offer, visit our website at:
refugeeactionkingston.org.uk

For an appointment call 020 8547 0115
or email admin@refugeeactionkingston.org.uk

You can also visit our drop-in service. As dates and times may change, the most up-to-date details can be found on our website.



Immigration and welfare advice

We offer free and confidential advice and support with immigration, welfare benefits, education, utilities, health access, housing and more to refugees and asylum-seekers in Kingston and neighbouring boroughs.

We are certified by the Advice Quality Standard (AQS) and Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC) to provide immigration advice up to Level 3.



English language classes

We offer a mix of regular face to face and online classes from pre-entry beginners to Level 2.

We also offer a weekly Walk and Talk session in Fairfield Park in central Kingston. You can practise English while enjoying a walk with teachers and other learners. Everyone is welcome.

We offer women's yoga classes online and in person, as well as a range of free classes designed to impart English language skills while participating in enjoyable activities.

Visit our website to find out more about when and where we meet each week.



Activities for children

We run a Homework Club for school age children to receive help with English, maths and other schoolwork. The club also offers crafts, music, and educational games. There are face to face classes after school plus some online classes for older children.

We support children in school and we help parents to understand the education system so they can speak with confidence to their children's teachers.

We also organise visits, sports and family activities in the school holidays and a children's summer play scheme each year.

Counselling

We offer a free counselling service for refugees and asylum-seekers who are suffering from emotional distress as a result of trauma, separation, displacement and bereavement.

Our team of fully qualified and experienced counsellors offer specialist counselling in a safe, confidential, non-judgmental, culturally sensitive environment in the client's language of choice.



Career advice

We give impartial information, advice and guidance about career options for refugees and asylum-seekers, including:

- looking and applying for work
- accessing vocational training, as well as further and higher education
- signposting and referring to volunteering opportunities
- funding for qualifications and training opportunities
- recognition of qualifications from abroad

We offer:

- one-to-one career guidance sessions
- group workshops
- information sessions on employment terms and the UK labour market
- guided job search sessions

We also raise awareness amongst employers about the right of refugees in the UK to work, to undertake work experience, and to be included in work trials.



Essential items

We provide donated clothing, shoes, toiletries and other necessities free to clients by appointment. Depending on availability we may also be able to offer mobile phones, tablets, and SIM cards.

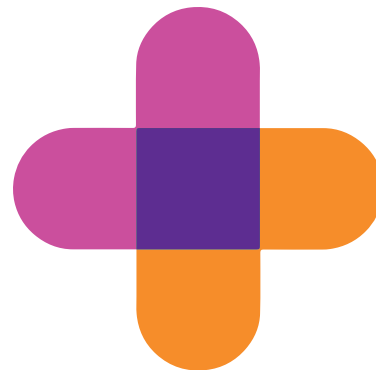
After an appointment has been made, you will be invited to visit our space in Kingston to choose the items that you need. We do not normally offer delivery.

Everything that we have available is carefully sorted to ensure it is clean and in good condition, with many items being new or never used.

We also issue food bank vouchers that can be redeemed at a local food bank.

If you have friends who would benefit from this service, please ask them to make a separate appointment.

If you would like to support this service by making a donation, check the donations page of our website for a list of items we are able to accept.



Volunteering

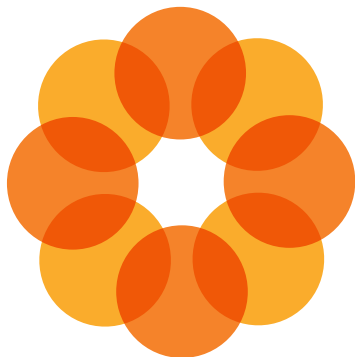
We are always looking for qualified interpreters and counsellors who can volunteer their time and expertise.

We also have specific volunteering opportunities to teach English, mentor clients, support job seekers, befriend new arrivals and conduct administration and research.

We recruit new volunteers every few months. All applicants are invited for an interview to discuss the role and see if it is what they are looking for.

Volunteers are given the flexibility to use their skills and experience in a way that fits around other commitments.

You can view the current list of volunteer vacancies on our website. To register as a volunteer, please complete an application form on the volunteering page.



Become a regular supporter

As a member of our community, you can help empower refugees and asylum-seekers to lead independent lives as integrated members of our community.

For £10 a month, you can help refugees in South West London settle with the dignity we all deserve by supporting the:

- Advisers who assist family reunion cases
- Welfare specialists who make sure children are adjusting to school
- Counsellors who provide trauma-sensitive therapy

We also encourage members of the community to support us by running their own fundraisers.

For more information and to become a regular supporter, visit refugeeactionkingston.org.uk/donate



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