



East Regional Group

There has been regular collaboration between counties in the East of England for many, many years and MERGE (Minority Ethnic Eastern Regional Group for Equalities in Education) became a sister organisation of NALDIC some years ago. Members of this group have valued opportunities to share expertise and have gained a great deal from all networking opportunities. Towards the end of 2011, MERGE was reborn as **EEMEMA** (East and East Midlands Ethnic Minority Achievement). The new network was established in order to sustain and develop a wider regional partnership which will focus on Ethnic Minority Achievement across all phases and educational settings. The group also comprises what was the East and East Midlands EAL hub and we wish to continue to offer the regional EMA CPD opportunities that the hub provided.

The purpose of this network is to provide high quality professional development for EMA professionals and to share good practice in order to build mainstream capacity across the region. It is vital in the current educational climate, that as local authorities and teachers we respond effectively to the new ways of working with various types of school organisation in order to narrow gaps. This will be easier to achieve as a regional group of EMA experts than as individual Local authorities.

Founder members of EEMEMA are:

- Cambridgeshire
- Essex
- Hertfordshire
- Luton
- Norfolk
- Peterborough
- Suffolk

We have recently held a highly successful 'Just Giving Day' bringing people together to discuss and share expertise on a number of issues including assessment, induction, CPD, the Equality Act, cultural diversity in the curriculum and FAQs.

More events are planned and we are currently working on a new website for the eastern region where a variety of resources and guidance documents plus an events calendar will be available.

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