



MINI WINNIES



Forget-me-not SVP Lenten Reconciliation Service



The Forget-me-not SVP Lenten Reconciliation Service gave you the opportunity to think and learn about the experiences of people looking for safety in our country.

Now we are going to learn a little bit more about refugees and asylum seekers and how we can continue to support them...



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Opening Prayer

Father,

Thank you for bringing us together to serve.
May your Holy Spirit be with us as we discuss our topic for today and guide us in welcoming and helping those who come to our country looking for safety.

Amen



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What's the difference between refugees and asylum seekers?



See

Asylum Seeker

A person who has left the country where they were born, because it's not safe to stay, and they are waiting to find out if they can settle in another country.

Refugee

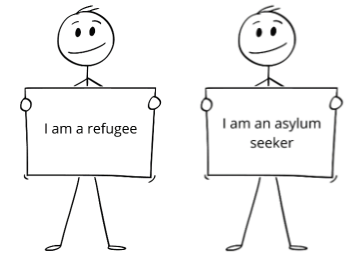
A person who has left the country where they were born, because it's not safe for them to stay, and they have been allowed to settle in another country.

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What support do refugees and asylum seekers get in the UK?

- I am allowed to work in the country I have moved to.
- I receive £5.39 a day for food, clothing and other basic necessities.
- I can't choose where I want to live. The government gives me a place to stay.
- I can open a bank account and have a National Insurance number.
- I am not allowed to work.
- I have to find my own home.
- I might be able to get financial help from the government if I don't have a job, I am too ill to work, I have a low wage or I am over the working age.
- I am waiting to find out if I can stay.



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Were you correct?



- I am allowed to work in the country I have moved to.
- I can open a bank account and have a National Insurance number.
- I have to find my own home.
- I might be able to get financial help from the government if I don't have a job, I am too ill to work, I have a low wage or I am over the working age.

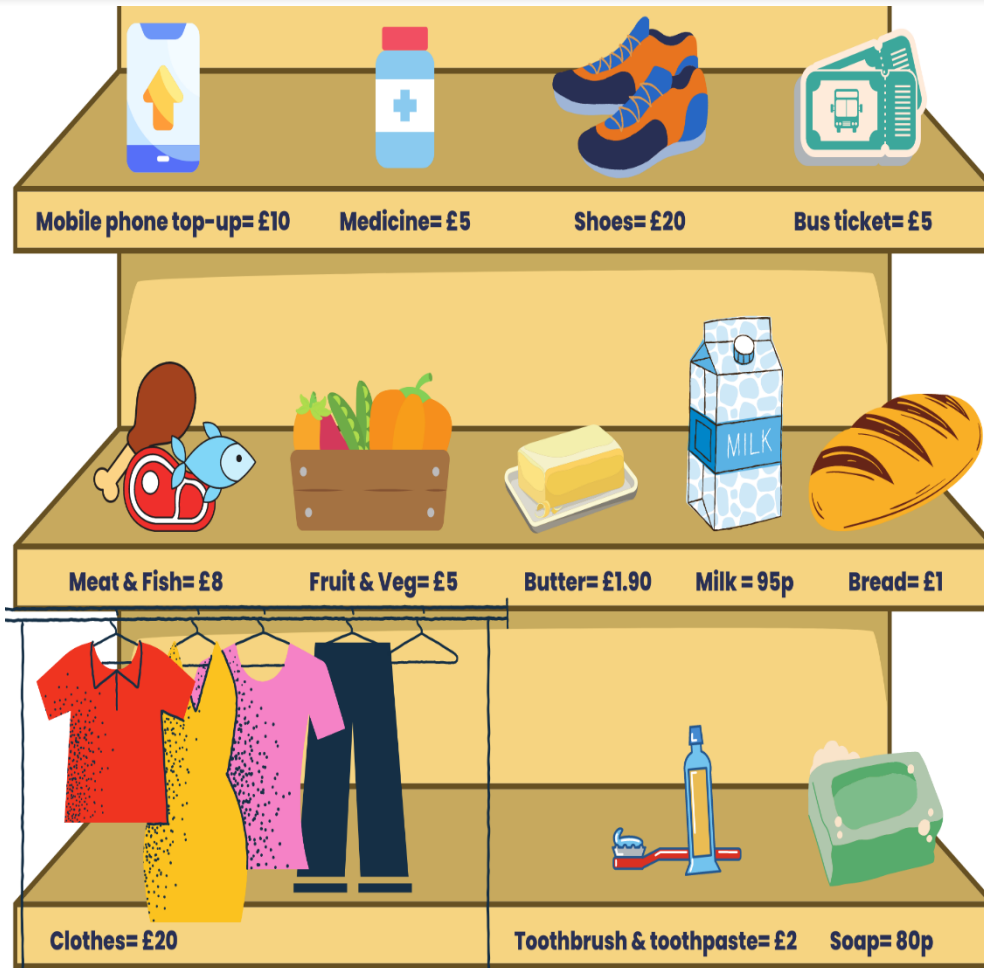


- I receive £5.39 a day for food, clothing and other basic necessities.
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Managing the cost of living



Asylum seekers have £39.63 per person, per week for things like food, clothing and things to stay clean and healthy.

How would you manage your money for the week?

Two things that you need to remember:
You need to make a visit to the asylum seekers centre across town.
You need to contact your family back home.

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Turn your concern into action

Do

What surprised you about what you've learned today?

Did you think anything was unfair?

How do you feel about what you've read?

What do you think needs to change?

Now it's your turn to show your concern by writing a letter to your local MP about these issues.



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Writing your letter to your MP

Dear (name of your local MP),

- Tell him/her what you were learning about today.

Today in school, we were learning about.....

- Tell him/ her what surprised you.

I was really surprised because....

- Tell him/her what you think is unfair and why.

I think it's unfair that.....because....

- Tell him/ her what you think needs to change.

I believe that.....needs to change because....

- Ask him/her for their thoughts on the situation and your comments.

Finish your letter with:

Yours sincerely, (Your name)



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Closing Prayer

Lord,

Thank you for helping us learn more about the world around us. Help us to be more welcoming and caring towards those who come to find safety in the UK.

We wrote to our MP to show that we care and that we want to see change. Fill us with your Holy Spirit to continue to help refugees and asylum seekers in this country.

Amen



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