

Byron Court School

Rob : Learning and practicing a language requires effort but the children of the school in London that we're going to be hearing about today had no choice. They're from different countries and no less than 42 languages are spoken in the playground.

Finn : They speak 42 languages. Wow,

Rob : yes, of course they all have to learn English because they live here. So let's talk about Byron Court a school with 600 pupils in North West London. The school gets high marks for integration as they have pupils from all over the world. Yes they come from places as far apart as Iraq, Somalia, India, Romania and Slovakia. Many are children of immigrants and refugees.

Finn : It all sounds very nice Rob but I wonder what happens in the classroom, I mean many pupils are learning basic words in English while at the same time studying things like science and Maths also in English so quite a challenge, hey

Rob : It is indeed a big problem

Finn : it's good for them because they end up as bilingual adults speaking two languages fluently

Rob : So their effort pays off

At Byron Court the concern is more about pupils Who are native speakers of English parents worry about their children not learning much.

Maybe the best thing is for everybody to try to learn a second language, not a bad thing in today's small world