Archbishop Holgate's School

Inclusion Corner

SUMMER 1 NEWSLETTER: May 2023

Welcome to our 'Inclusion Corner' newsletter feature - we hope you find this newsletter both an informative and uplifting read. For those of you with students new to AHS, a quick overview is below:

Each half-term, our Inclusion Corner newsletter will aim to: share important information and links to inform parents/carers on Special Educational Needs, shining a spotlight on a different area of need; celebrate our students' achievements, both in and out of school; publicise news and events that may be of interest to our SEND parents/carers; and finally, introduce parents/carers to each member of our inclusion team here at AHS.

New roles in the Inclusion Department from September

We are very excited to announce that we have three new roles within the Inclusion Department starting from September 2023. These roles have been taken on by staff who are already employed within the School Assistant Team. These staff members are taking on new responsibilities in order to best serve the needs of our growing school...

SEND Champion: SLCN - Autism

Mrs Burns will be our new SEND Champion for Speech, Language and Communication Needs. She will also take on Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) work and our Autism Champion caseload from September.

"I am looking forward to this exciting opportunity to assist students to be the best versions of themselves."

Nurture Team Lead

Miss Byard will be heading up our new 'Nurture Team' deployment of School Assistant staff.

Access Team Lead

Mr Mountford will be heading up our new 'Access Team' deployment of School Assistant staff.

"I am absolutely buzzing and can't wait to be leading our team in supporting our EHCP students throughout school and into sixth form."

All of these roles continue to be line managed by our SENDCo and Inclusion Centre Manager. The aim of creating these roles is to ensure our young people are getting the very best deal from the additional staffing capacity we create through our School Assistant teams. We have listened to feedback from students, parents, teaching staff and the school assistant team themselves and through this new system we hope to be able to provide more opportunity for support and resourcing for our young people.

Inclusion News

CAMHS Forms

You may be aware that CAMHS has recently updated their assessment screening forms. We have spoken to the CAMHS team about this and we were really reassured and impressed by their rationale around this. We hope the new changes will support families to access the support they need in a more streamlined way. If you are asked by CAMHS to complete forms, please do so and then pass them to school for us to complete our section. The easiest way to do this is to email them as attachments to main reception and/or the SENDCo on:

reception@ahs.pmat.academy
SENDCO@ahs.pmat.academy

Please note that it takes, on average, 40 minutes for school to complete our sections of the form and we are receiving high volumes of these forms at the moment. We want to ensure we complete them fully and to the best of our capabilities, so we are grateful for your patience in this matter. We will get them back to you and CAMHS as soon as we possibly can.

Deaf Awareness Week

The week commencing 1 May was Deaf Awareness Week in the UK. We have a small collective of Deaf and Hearing Impaired students in school and so we wanted to do something to mark the occasion and both highlight and celebrate the deaf community within our school population. Some of our Hearing Impaired students filmed themselves using sign language and this was shared with form groups through 'Sign of the Day' in form time; form groups watched the Oscar winning short film 'The Silent Child' which emphasises the need for deaf inclusivity within families and in the education sector; one of our Hearing Impaired Sixth Form students delivered Acts of Collective Worship alongside our Chief Financial Officer, Mr Duxbury, who signed the assembly for students; and a group of our Key Stage 3 students took part in our 'Lollipops for Lollipop' event, where we raised almost £100 for the local deaf charity Lollipop.

For the last two weeks, as a surprise for Deaf Awareness Week, Phoebe and Hannah in Year 7 have been doing a sponsored signathon. The girls have learnt 250 new signs in two weeks to raise money to support Lollipop (the deaf charity in York). They've managed to raise over £500 so far! The link to their fundraising page can be found here: https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-support-the-deaf-community-in-york. If you'd like to support them in their cause, please visit and donate.

Lollipop Services Fair

Members of the Inclusion Team at AHS were really pleased to be able to access the Lollipop Services Fair earlier in the month. It was a fantastic showcase of the wide variety of services and teams available in York to support the Deaf community. There was information and support about independent living, mental health, employability, education and how to get involved in music and the arts. It was brilliant to see such a range of friendly and enthusiastic stall holders and also lovely to bump into many of our students both past and present! For further information on Lollipop and the support they offer, please check out their website: https://www.lollipopyork.org.uk/

Askham Bryan College visit

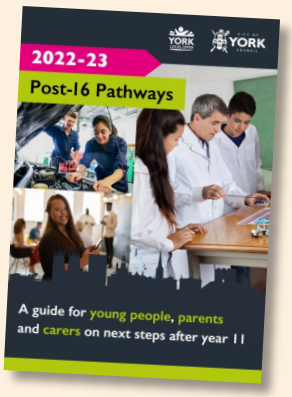
In April, our Assistant SENDCo, Kate Rose, took a group of the Year 10 EHCP students to Askham Bryan College to see whether it would be a place they would like to study at post-16. Although these students are only in Year 10, we feel it's important for them to visit as many post-16 providers as possible to make sure they are making an informed choice about their further education at the end of Year 11.

On the visit, students got a tour of the campus and visited the horticultural, farming, animal care and sports facilities at the site. Students were particularly impressed with the modern farming techniques as they watched a cow being milked, and they also enjoyed the tropical greenhouse in the horticultural centre where they saw a banana tree! It was interesting to learn what studying at Askham Bryan would be like; our students got the opportunity to see Askham Bryan students in action in the library using VR to help them with their veterinary studies and in the Wildlife Centre learning about and helping to look after the animals. Our tour guide also gave the students information about living on site at Askham Bryan, which students can do from the age of 16, and the variety of careers their students go into after they have finished their studies.

For more information about open days at Askham Bryan and to book a place, visit their website here: https://www.askham-bryan.ac.uk/open-days/

Next steps...

It is never too early to start thinking about next educational steps for your young person, whether this is post-16 or post-18 provision. You can find out more information on what's on offer in York through the Post-16 Pathways Guide



Upcoming Open Days

Askham Bryan College University Centre
Saturday 17 June, 10.30am - 1.30pm

Bishop Burton
Saturday 17 June, 10am - 1pm

York College
Thursday 22 June, 5.30pm - 8pm

For the EHCP only providers in the city, such as Blueberry Academy and Tang Hall Smart, you can request to visit them any time as they have no set open days due to their more niche specialisms.

The Retreat Clinics

The Retreat is a private clinic in York that offers a broad range of services to support young people and their families. Although there is often a cost to their support, it is worth checking out their website as they offer support for young people, adults and businesses and services who work with neurodiverse young people. There's loads of training on their website, and some can be accessed for free: https://theretreatclinics.org.uk/. See the flyer on the following page for more information about the Retreat Clinics.

Children and Young People Mental Health Services at The Retreat Clinics

The Retreat Clinics
Supporting Mental Health and Neurodiversity

We understand that not every childhood is worry-free.

If you are worried about your child or teenager's mental wellbeing, or have noticed that they have been anxious or quieter than usual, then we're here with the support your family needs.

We offer a wide range of bespoke therapies for children and young people up to the age of 18. We understand that no two children are the same, which is why our experienced therapists tailor their therapies to suit the needs of each individual child.

All of our therapies are available at our welcoming clinics in York, Manchester and online

How can we support your child?

Our approach to therapy is child-centred, which means we offer different approaches depending on the age and individual needs and choices made by each child and their family.

We have a range of engaging approaches to therapy, including creative therapies such as art, sandtray, and play.

We also offer EMDR and a number of talking therapies, such as cognitive behavioural therapy, psychoanalytic psychotherapy and counselling.

We support every child and young person to feel safe and comfortable in their sessions and we help them to explore the best ways for them to communicate on their therapeutic journey.

Who can we support?

We provide bespoke therapeutic support for children and young people who may have experienced a range of difficulties, including:

• Anger issues • Anxiety • Bullying • Grief & Loss • Low self-esteem • Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
• Panic Attacks • Problems with food • Relationships & Friendships • Stress • Sensory Issues
• Separation Anxiety • Trauma

We can also provide a safe space for your child to discuss how they are feeling generally.

Parent Consultations

Parents and carers are often the experts on their children. They know when their child is troubled or when they are not feeling ok. Our experienced therapists offer consultations to parents where you can talk about your concerns, worries or your experience of being a parent. The therapist will work with you to identify possible strategies and explore support options for a wide range of issues.

The Retreat Clinics
Charles Court,
Strensall,
York,
YO32 5XP

theretreatclinics.org.uk
CYPTSInfo@theretreatyork.org.uk
01904 412 551 option 3

The Retreat Clinics

Get ready for summer

There are lots of activities starting to be planned for the upcoming half term holiday and the fast approaching summer holidays! Be sure to check out the following groups and websites for activities for young people across York. If you know about any accessible clubs events and/or activities that you would like us to share in our newsletters, please get in touch.

Accessible Arts

See the calendar of events
Sign up to their newsletter

Accessible Arts has a young people's project called Inclusive Music Project (IMPs) which AHS students may be interested in. There are two strands of the project. The first is a weekly term time evening group for young people with disabilities who write their own songs, play traditional and accessible instruments, learn to sing and sign their favourite songs and anything else music related that you can think of! This takes place on a Monday, 6.00pm - 7.30pm in Acomb Methodist Church, and (after a free taster) is £6 a session. We do have subsidies if this is a barrier to any families.

The second strand are the holiday clubs, which are fully inclusive and generally once a week in the holidays. We run them for two different age groups - primary and secondary and we encourage all the family to come along so siblings can enjoy an inclusive activity together. Generally the younger age group meets in the morning and the older age group in the afternoon. Each holiday club has a different theme and whilst it is still music based, we like to link up other art forms with the music, so we've done some music technology, musical stories, theatre and music, dance and music. The next one is 'The IMPs Express' on Friday 2 June at New Earswick Folk Hall: https://aamedia.org.uk/news/all-aboard-the-imps-express/

Useful links

Door 84 youth sessions for ages 8 -17

York Inspirational Kids Activities

York Arts Education Music Sessions

The Snappy Trust Programmes

Short breaks for disabled and young children

Visit York half term family friendly activities

SEND Coffee Morning

Saturday 17 June, 9.30am - 12.00pm
The last coffee morning of this academic year will be held on Saturday 17 June, 9.30am - 12.00pm. It would be great to see as many of you there as possible. We will be advertising this to new parents to AHS - we're sure many will have questions about transition and would feel better after meeting you. If you know any parents of Year 6 students who may benefit from meeting other parents of young people with additional needs, please feel free to invite them along.

Parent Carer Forum
We have been really grateful to have members of the York Parent Carer Forum represented at our recent coffee mornings. They are an excellent resource within the city so please do follow them on social media for more information, or visit the Yor-Ok website.

Specialist Teaching Team for Autism
Wednesday Parent Support Summer 2023

Parent Group: Topic Talks virtual (a.m.) and repeated in person (p.m.)

Topic Talks led by the Specialist Teaching Team for Autism, including time for peer support.

Virtual: 10-11 a.m. On Microsoft Teams. Due to confidentiality issues, we will be unable to discuss named children during this time.

In Person: 1.30-2.30 p.m. at **The YIKS All About Autism Hub, Clifton Children's Centre, (In front of Clifton Green School), YO30 6BF.**

Topic Talks Summer Term 2023:

Sleep Wed 26th April 10-11a.m. online & 1.30-2.30 p.m. in person

Managing Meltdowns Wed 10th May 10-11a.m. online & 1.30-2.30 p.m. in person

Social Stories Wed 24th May 2023 10-11a.m. online & 1.30-2.30 p.m. in person

Starting School or Changing Class Wed 14th June 10-11a.m. online & 1.30-2.30 p.m. in person

Help for the Holidays Wed 28th June 10-11a.m. online & 1.30-2.30 p.m. in person

Establishing Routines Wed 12th July 10-11a.m. online & 1.30-2.30 p.m. in person

To book your **virtual place** on a Microsoft Teams session, please email your name and contact email address, stating which session(s) you would like to book to: parentcarerautismsupport@york.gov.uk

This is an admin email address and we are unable to forward or respond to queries via this email.

Bookings close the Thursday before the session.

For **in person sessions**, you do not need to book and are welcome to simply arrive on the day. Please be aware, sessions may be busy.

Specialist Teaching Team for Autism
Wednesday Parent Support Summer 2023

Parent/Carer Phone Line and Drop-in

The Specialist Teaching Team Autism are offering parents/carers the opportunity to talk to a member of the team regarding general issues and concerns about children/young people with autism.

Phone line support: 9-12 noon 20 minutes is allocated per phone call.

In person drop-in support. 1.30-3 p.m. at **The YIKS All About Autism Hub, Clifton Children's Centre, (In front of Clifton Green School), YO30 6BF**

Phone line (mornings) and drop-in (afternoons) dates and times:
Wednesday 19th April 9 a.m. -12 noon & 1.30 - 3 p.m.
Wednesday 3rd May 9 a.m. -12 noon & 1.30 - 3 p.m.
Wednesday 17th May 9 a.m. -12 noon & 1.30 - 3 p.m.
Wednesday 7th June 9 a.m. -12 noon & 1.30 - 3 p.m.
Wednesday 21st June 9 a.m. -12 noon & 1.30 - 3 p.m.
Wednesday 5th July 9 a.m. -12 noon & 1.30 - 3 p.m.
Wednesday 19th July 9 a.m. -12 noon & 1.30 - 3 p.m.

To **book a phone line call**, please email: parentcarerautismsupport@york.gov.uk

This is an admin email address and we are unable to forward or respond queries via this email. Bookings close the Thursday before the session.

We require your name and a contact telephone number for us to contact you. We will then send you an approximate time slot for your 20 minute call.

If we receive a high volume of requests we may need to allocate spaces on the session on a first come, first served basis.

For in person drop-in sessions, you do not need to book and you are welcome to simply arrive on the day. Please be aware, sessions may be busy and you may need to wait to speak to a member of the team.