

SEND Local Area Newsletter

July 2024











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Year 6 SEN & Safeguarding Croydon Schools

Transition Event



We are thrilled to announce the incredible success of the Year 6 SEN & Safeguarding Transition Event, held on Tuesday, 25th June, at the Braithwaite Hall in the Croydon Clocktower. This event brought together a remarkable gathering of dedicated professionals focused on ensuring a smooth transition for students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and other vulnerable students moving from Year 6 to Year 7.

The collaboration among primary and secondary SENCOs and leads from all Croydon schools, and neighbouring out-of-borough secondaries was truly inspiring. This united effort highlighted the strength and dedication of our educational community in prioritizing the needs of these students during this crucial transitional phase.

Throughout the afternoon, attendees engaged in meaningful discussions and shared vital information about the students, ensuring strong transitions between primary and secondary education.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated and contributed to the success of this event. Your commitment and collaboration are essential in making a positive difference in the lives of these young individuals.





Croydon Active Voices

Annual General Meeting and Empowerment Conference



We recently attended the Croydon Active Voices AGM and Empowerment Conference which was a great day for networking and bringing people together.

There were presentations from Croydon Localities SEND Support, Professor Nick Gore talking about the Early Positive Approaches to Support (EPATS) programme and Encounter Occupational Therapy with Andrea Richards and Michelle Herring.

There was representation from parents/carers, professionals and the local community and a real chance for learning, discussions and most of all to support our parent carer forum.

There were a range of stalls providing information on local services, activities and support.

This included:

- Croydon Mencap
- Carers Information Service
- David Lean Cinema
- Croydon Music and Arts
- National Autistic Society Croydon Social Groups
- A Collective and Autistic Youth Club
- Croydon Council Independent travel training
- Waddon Youth Centre Post 19 Pathways Programme





Bensham Manor School - Ofsted Inspection

"Our Ofsted inspection was June 5th and 6th 2024. We were awaiting a full inspection, having previously been inspected under a Section 8 in March 2023.

The initial phone call was from the Lead inspector and this simply checked that the inspection was ok to go ahead and for him to make a note of anything such as planned trips etc. This call came just before 10am. The longer call was at 11.30am and lasted about one hour and fifteen minutes.

I gave the contact of the school, what my assessment of the school was and areas of development. I had all of my SLT with me on the call which was welcomed. We had a team of three on Day 1 and 2 on Day 2.

I was able to choose the Deep Dive areas, within reason. He was keen to see foundation subjects so we agreed on Food Technology and PE - the other Deep Dive areas were English, Reading and Phonics and PSHE. We have a Post 16 so that too was an area of focus.

A member of SLT was present at each Deep Dive meeting. They roughly lasted between 30 and 45 minutes except for PSHE which was over an hour. The team only wanted to focus on lessons that were a Deep Dive subject. They did see some other lessons but only when there were no lessons from the Deep Dive areas.

The primary focus of Day 1 was the curriculum - with a major focus on just implementation. They spoke to pupils, observed lessons but the biggest scrutiny was of books and folders. They looked at topics being taught at different levels - for example how was Macbeth taught to a range of pupils of differing academic ability - we had to explain and then show the evidence in the books.

Day 1 also looked at Safeguarding, the SCR (lots of depth around the Right to Work in the UK checks) and Safer Recruitment (recruitment and online checks were drilled down). They also met with Governors.

Day 2 still focused on the curriculum up until about break time. There were also meetings on Behaviour/Attendance and Personal Development. They met with a staff group, the School Council and a group of pupils from a PSHE lesson. They scrutinised the staff and parent survey results. The topic of workload is huge - lots of people asked about workload and my response to reducing it.

I did find the process very tough. The level of scrutiny between a short and full inspection cannot be compared. What helped is that I was confident in the judgement I felt we should be getting as I had evidenced all the Ofsted grade descriptors so could call on that evidence when needed.

Also, the website is key and on both inspections both Leads were able to see the curriculum maps and what we are teaching which they both liked.

I did draw on the training delivered by Maggie Farrar at the Headteachers Conference earlier this year and this helped me manage my stress levels somewhat. If you did not attend I can highly recommend booking her for your SLT/Middle or Phase Leaders.

I am more than happy to chat to anyone who would like any further information or support."

Fiona Robinson – Headteacher, Bensham Manor School



We'd like to congratulate Bensham Manor on their recent inspection!

Croydon SEND Local Area Newsletter

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Croydon SEND Youth Voice Forum

Croydon Superstars

Croydon Council and the Integrated Care Board (ICB) are dedicated to evaluating the efficiency of their services for children and young people with Special Educational Needs (SEND).



As part of this assessment of services and as preparation for a potential Local Area inspection, Croydon Council visited schools and had engagement sessions on Preparation for Adulthood with special schools' councils/ forums.

Students from Croydon College, Red Gates School, St Giles School, Bensham Manor School and St Nicholas School participated in engagement sessions led by Croydon Council on Preparation for adulthood. During these sessions, three activities took place.

Activity 1 - was a warmup game titled "Are you more like". The students were asked to decide on whether they were more like one profession or another profession. Examples ranged from Chefs, Gardeners, Police officers, Designers and Teachers. Students engaged well in this activity and thought about what professions they would consider being in when they are older.

Activity 2 - "My Future", was the main part of the session where the students had four task sheets categorised into aspects of life that students would consider whether they were ready for or needed certain skills to be prepared for adulthood. These were categorised into four main areas, linked to the National Preparation for Adulthood framework from DfE and NDTi (National Development Team for Inclusion):

- School & Work,
- Family & Friends,
- Happy & Healthy (including Mental Health and Wellbeing) and
- Skills for living.

Each worksheet had a relevant pack of images that correlated to each theme, which students had to organise into whether they have, need or sometimes have/need.

Please click <u>here</u> for the full impact report.

A further activity is being carried out to design a logo for the Croydon Superstars.

We will keep you all posted!



Family Hubs

Eating Well for Less Workshop

Trying to eat well and make healthy choices when shopping on a budget can seem very daunting. However, healthy choices don't need to be expensive choices. Come along to one of our free Eat Well for less workshops running over the Summer for top tips to help keep to a budget and help the whole family eat more healthily.

Monday 22nd July 10am-12pm - Woodlands Family Hub

Tuesday 20th August 10am-12pm - Online

If you are a Croydon family with children under 12, please book your place by clicking here.

Please note, places are limited and need to be booked in advance.



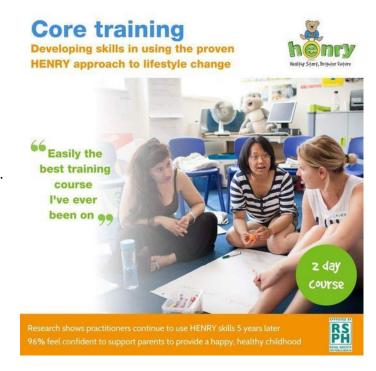
Core Training

Calling all practitioners: We have our Core Training this August (Mon 5th & Tues 6th), at Woodlands Family Hub, 9.15-4.30pm.

Register your interest by clicking here.

You can keep up to date with news and events by following the Family Hubs Croydon Facebook page.





Early Postivie Approaches to support (E-PAtS)

Research Study

If your child has additional developmental needs (diagnosis not necessary) and is **at least 18 months old but not yet 6**, youmight like to take part in the E-PAtS research study.

What is E-PAtS?

E-PAtS is an 8-session group programme for families that is designed and run by families and professionals working together.

What is the E-PAtS Research Study?

We want to find out if E-PAtS helps parents and carers of children with additional developmental needs.

This is a randmoised study, which means families will be selected by chance (like tossing a coin) to either attend an E-PAtS group now or in 12 months' time.

Parents can received up to £60 worth of vouchers for completing questionnaires.

Croydon Mencap is taking part in the E-PAtS Study.

Location: Woodlands Children's Centre, CR2 8HD

When: 2nd October – 4th December 2024 (every Wednesday from 9.45am to 12.15pm)

To find out more please contact <u>training@croydonmencap.org.uk</u> or LSSJEarly SupportRCT@Kent.ac.uk.

Further inforamtion can also be found here.

FUNDED BY



Aerodrome Children's Centre – SEN Play and Learn 0-5

SEN Play and Learn 0-5's (Special Educational Needs)



This session is for children who may find it overwhelming in busier environments.

We aim to provide a calm and nurturing space for children whom perhaps are sensitive to noise, have additional needs (diagnosed/undiagnosed), sensory seek, and developmental delay.

Come along and join us...
'A non judgmental safe space'

Aerodrome Children's Centre Violet Lane, Waddon, CRO 4HN

Wednesday's 1.00-2.30pm
(fortnightly, please see timetable for dates)
https://www.crosfieldandselhurstnursery.co.uk/Timetables/

Sensory and soft play room available!

If you would like more information, please call Selhurst on 020 8684 3777



National Literacy Trust – Walk and Talk Trail

The National Literacy Trust have created a walk and talk trail, which is **FREE** for families to use.

Packed with tips and tricks to help your little one develop their language and communication skills, the trail is a great excuse to get outside with your 0 to 5 year olds and explore the surrounding area.

We hope they support you to look, listen and chat with your child anywhere, anytime!

Visit their website to download a copy and read along on your phone, or print at home.

You will also find translated copies of the trail in an additional 18 languages.







Croydon Holiday Activity and Food Programme

We are excited to announce Croydon's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme for summer 2024, which offer a range of enriching activities for all children including those with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and



Additional Needs. Our goal is to ensure every child has the opportunity to participate in engaging and enjoyable activities during the summer holidays.

All of our summer programmes are designed to be inclusive and supportive of children with additional needs. Providers are trained and equipped to accommodate a variety of needs, ensuring that every child can fully participate and benefit from the activities offered. We understand that some children may require additional support to enjoy the programme fully. All organisations can request further assistance to bring in a one-to-one worker if required for a young person.

In addition to our general inclusive programmes, we have three SEN specific clubs located around the borough. These clubs are tailored to meet the unique needs of children with SEN, offering specialised activities and support structures to enhance their holiday experience. These clubs provide a safe and understanding environment, ensuring that children with SEN can enjoy their time and engage fully in the activities offered.

For more information and to register your child, please visit the unique link parents of eligible children will have received from "HolidayActivities", or by clicking <u>here</u>.

National Autistic Society

Croydon Social Groups



Our social groups for autistic children and young adults are a relaxing space for people to meet and socialise and participate in a variety of activities.

- Lego Club Mondays 17:00-18:00 & 18:00-19:00
- Football Club Mondays 17:00-18:00 & 18:00-19:00
- Trampolining Club Wednesdays 17:15-17:45 & 18:00-18:30
- Youth Club Saturdays (Fortnightly) 10:00-13:00

Eligibility

Age: From age 5 to 18

Contact: services@nas.org.uk



Summer SEND Club



SUMMER SEND CLUB

Sensory & science Fun!

Location: Broadmead Primary school, Sydenham Road,

CRO 2EA

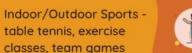
Days: Tuesday to Thursday (8.30am - 1.30pm) Prices: £30 per session or £100 for week

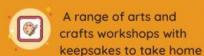
Breakfast | Healthy Snacks | Lunch | Water - All provided

Tue 30th July - Fri 22nd August

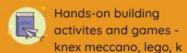
Free for FSN

Students!

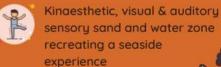


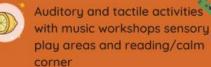


Arts and Sports











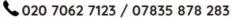


Food Science / Catch-Up Classes

Food science games, cookery classes & balanced diets & other fun food nutrition & food tasting activities

Maths and English -Support classes

11+ /SATs Mock Exam Revision (OPTIONAL)





mbrightfutures4all.com/schoolclub





@ @brightfutures4all



CROYDON





Location: Broadmead Primary Academy, Sydenham Road,

Croydon CRO 2EA

Date: Thursdays Open at 3pm. Close: 5.30pm (Term Time only)

Who: For SEND students in Ks2 (Year 4-6) & Ks3 (Year 7)

October 2024 - Start date tbc

Sensory Fun Zones!



Fun - Board games, painting, building and Lego



Learning - kinesthetic, visual, auditory and tactile



Science / STEM - water, sand, sounds and textiles play-based learning activities!

Cakes and Conversation



Support network for parents over cake and tea!



Come along to connect with others / share your story / have a distraction!



Run by SEND teen/adults!



SEND young adults who have grown up with Bright Futures 4 All will run sessions alongside SEND specialist adults!



SEND young adults know first-hand what children need to feel supported and loved.







mbrightfutures4all.com

- in Karen Bryson
- @BF4Allteaching
- @ @brightfutures4all



Croydon Mencap

Strictly come walking

July 2024

6th July (10.00-14.00):

Park Hill and Learning Disability Carnival

Meeting point outside Fairfield Halls.

13th July (10.00-14.00):

Coombe Woods and Lloyd Park

Meeting point Lebanon Road tram stop.

20th July (10.00-14.00):

Morden Hall Park

Meeting point Lebanon Road tram stop.

27th July (10.00-14.00):

Addiscombe Railway Park and Wellbeing Day

Meeting point Enterprise Lounge.



Chill and Chat

Croydon Mencap also offers Chill and Chat sessions (term time only) for parents of children with additional needs aged under 5 at Malling Close Children's Centre (10.00-14.00).

Sessions include singing, movement to music, stories, playing with toys and lots of fun.

Family Advocacy and Support Team

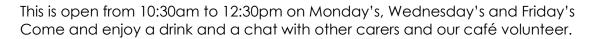
For families of children and young people with disabilities and adults with learning disabilities. Services include advocacy, information, social events, support (including peer support and emotional support), training and workshops.

For more information, please contact info@croydonmencap.org.uk or call 0208 684 5890.

To view the full calendar of activities please click <u>here</u>.

Carers Information Service

Carers Café





Carers

Information

Carers Support Centre Choir

Held on the second & last Wednesday of the month from 10:30am -11:45am - these are drop-in sessions, no need to book just sign in at the Advice desk.

Enjoy an uplifting and rejuvenating singing session to help you relax and give you a break from your caring role.

All voices welcome. Sessions are taught by our choral expert, Katie Rose.

Exercise class

Classes are held online every Tuesday (10.30-11.15am) for all fitness levels.

Sign up by emailing enquiries@carersinfo.org.uk or calling 020 8649 9339 (option 1).

You will be sent the joining link and a brief registration form.

Service ACTIVITIES Wednesday 03/07 Friday 06/07 Thursday 04/07 Carers Café 10.30 - 12.30 Carers Café 10.30 - 12.30 **Bodyfit Exercise** Carers Café 1030 - 1230 Benefits Advice Service 11.00 - 12.00 by appointment Monday 08/07 Tuesday 09/07 Wednesday 10/07 Thursday 11/07 Friday 12/07 **Bodyfit Exercise** Carers Café: 1030 - 1230 Carers Café 10.30 - 12.30 Carers Choir KIDS Drop In Carers Café 10.30 - 12.30 1030 - 1145 Benefits Advice Service by appointment Bereavement **Red Cross First** Support Group Aid Session 1000 - 1130 Wednesday 17/07 Tuesday 16/07 Thursday 18/07 Friday 19/07 Carers Café 1030 - 1230 Writer's Group Dementia Carers Support 14.30 - 16.00 Carers Café 10.30 - 12.30 Carers Café 1030 - 1230 1330 - 1500 **Bodyfit Exercise** Cost of Living Surger by appointment 10.30 - 11.45, online Monday 22/07 Wednesday 24/07 Thursday 25/07 Friday 26/07 Tuesday 23/07 Carers Café 10 30 - 12 30 Carers Café 10.30 - 12.30 Bodyfit Exercise Benefits 10.30 - 12.30 0.30 - 11.45, online Carers Choir Advice Service 1030 - 1145 by appointmen Monday 29/07 Tuesday 30/07 Wednesday 31/07 020 8649 9339 (option 1) Carers Café 1030 - 1230 **Bodyfit Exercise** Carers Café 10.30 - 12.30 Benefits - 11.45 online Advice Service enquiries@carersinfo.org.uk

JULY 2024

For more information, please visit the website by clicking here.

by appointment

instagram.com/acollectivecic

facebook.com/acollectivecic



An autistic-led creative health and wellbeing social enterprise in Croydon.

We co-produce social, cultural & community projects & spaces for autistic, ADHD & AuDHD people like us. We are ambassadors for positive conversations around neurodivergence as difference not deficit.

Our work is centred around care-led creativity, equitable access, individual autonomy & self advocacy.

Our current focus:

- Neurodivergent home educated kids aged 11-18
- Home educating parents
- Young adults aged 16-30
- · Women and girls
- · LGBTQIA+

What we offer:

- Creative arts workshops
- · Creative games & play
- · Peer support & mentoring
- Online communities
- · Social events & meet-ups
- Volunteer opportunities

Current opportunities:

- Volunteer members for our Women's, Non-Binary
 AFAB advisory group
- Allotment co-ordinators, weeders, plant whisperers

Consultancy work:

- Lived experience experts helping organisations who work with autistic people
- Access needs, equity, inclusion and belonging

ACOLLECTIVE.ORG.UK

For more information, please contact jill@acollective.org.uk

Autistic Youth Hub

Please also check out the Autistic Youth Hub. An autistic-led youth collective.

The Autistic Youth Hub are a group of autistic young adults aged 16-30: artists, gamers, performers, analysts, illustrators, activists, writers, students and more.

Our community is for young autistic and similarly neurodivergent adults without intellectual (learning) disability: able to live and work independently, how we choose, with varying degrees of support.

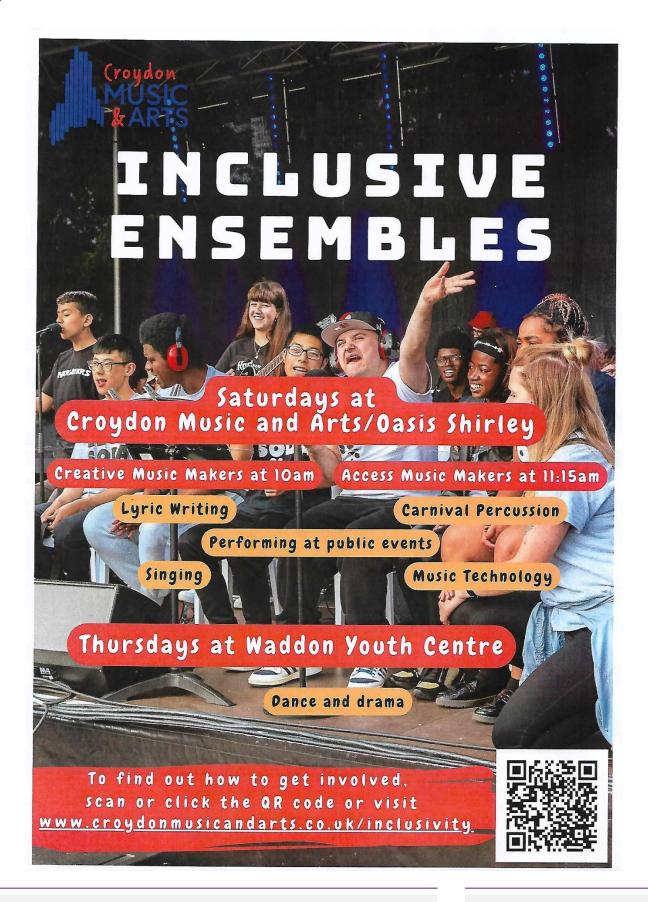
For more information please visit their website here.



creative workshops for neurodivergent home educated kids aged 11-18

- · Low support needs only
- · Formal diagnosis not needed
- Trans, non-binary and LGBTQIA+ affirming





Crystal Palace FC - Recruitment Day

CPFC is thrilled to invite you to their Recruitment Day for match day roles for the upcoming 2024/25 season!

This is an exciting opportunity to be a part of a team and contribute to an unforgettable experience for fans and players.



Date: Saturday, 6th July 2024

Morning timeslots: 9:30 am, 10:00 am, 10:30 am, 11:00 am, 11:30 am, 12:00 pm

Afternoon timeslots: 13:30, 14:00, 14:30, 15:00, 15:30

You do not need to book your timeslot; simply come in at one of the listed times.

Location: Selhurst Park Stadium, SE25 6PU - Entrance Glaziers Bar

Available Roles:

- Steward
- SIA Steward
- Retail Catering Hub Leader
- Retail Catering Operators
- Kitchen Porter
- Chef
- Logistics Operative

If you have any questions, please email: application@cpfc.co.uk

Requirements:

You must be over the age of 18 for all roles. Unfortunately, you will not be allowed an interview if you are under 18 years old.

Dress code: Smart wear – you will not be allowed into the premises if you are not dressed appropriately.

We recommend bringing a paper copy of your CV.

If you are applying for a Stewarding role, you must be willing to register for and complete the NVQ Level 2 – Spectator Safety course.

Complete the application form using the application link below; you will not be able to have an interview without completing the application form.

For more information, please visit the website.

Disabled Persons Railcard

The Disabled Persons Railcard is for people with a disability that makes travelling by train difficult. You will qualify if you meet one of the following criteria:



- receive Personal Independence Payments (PIP) or Adult Disability Payment (ADP)
- receive Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or Child Disability Payment (CDP) at either:
 - o the higher or lower rate for the mobility component, or
 - o the higher or middle rate for the care component
- have a visual impairment
- have a hearing impairment
- have epilepsy
- receive Attendance Allowance, Severe Disablement Allowance or Pension Age Disability Payment (PADP)
- receive War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement
- receive War or Service Disablement Pension for 80% or more disability
- buy or lease a vehicle through the Motability scheme

Please allow up to 5 working days for your Railcard application to be approved and if you choose a plastic card, 5 working days for your Railcard to be delivered.

For more information, please visit the website.

Family Fund

Support for Families with Disabled Children (SFDC)



Funded by the Department for Education and managed by Family Fund, the SFDC programme provides a wide range of grant items to families in England raising a disabled or seriously ill child or young person, and living on a low-income.

Grants for families living in England

Through the Support for Families with Disabled Children programme you can apply for items that will help meet your child's additional support needs and make family life easier.

You can request a kitchen appliance like a fridge, cooker, or washing machine, clothing or bedding for your child, sensory or play equipment, technology items such as tablets and laptops, or even a much-needed family break.

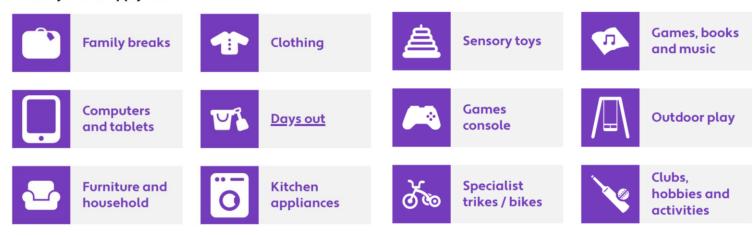
Eligibility

You can apply for an SFDC grant every 24 months.

To be eligible, you must also be:

- The main carer for a disabled or seriously ill child or young person aged 17 or younger
- Resident in England
- In receipt of benefits, or on a low income from working

Grants you can apply for:



For more information, please visit the website.

Club Soda

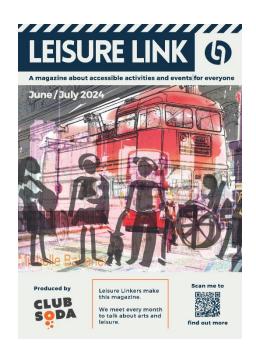
The aim is to change Croydon's social scene with more accessible gigs, events and venues, the Music Industry with more representation of neurodiverse artists in mainstream spaces and people's attitudes towards people with Learning Disabilities.



Leisure Link

Club Soda are excited to bring you Leisure Link, a new downloadable Magazine that lets you know what's going on in Croydon that is inclusive and accessible.

To find out more information, please visit the Club Soda website.







Visit Our Website www a2ndvoicecic co.uk





Autism eye Widgit

+44 (0) 07947 198 362

holidays@a2ndvoice.com

Get in Touch

SEND Local Offer

Services, advice, information and what's on in and around Croydon. https://localoffer.croydon.gov.uk/

Croydon SEND Transformation

sendtransformation@croydon.gov.uk











