

Please join us



College Details

Birtenshaw College
323-325 Crompton Way
Bolton
BL2 2PE
(BL2 2JX Sat. Nav)

Tel: 01204 602330

www.birtenshaw.org.uk

Email: enquiries@birtenshaw.org.uk

**YOU ARE
INVITED**

Community Café
Monday – Thursday
10.00am – 11.00am

General Information

Spring Term

Term Begins Tuesday 07 January

Half term Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February

Term Ends Thursday 26 March

TRAINING DAY Friday 27 March

Summer Term

Term Begins Tuesday 14 April

Bank Holiday Friday 8 May

Bank Holiday Monday 25 May

Half Term Tuesday 26 May – Friday 29 May

Term Ends Friday 17 July



On occasions there may be the opportunity to take learners swimming outside their timetabled session. It would be really helpful if you could send in a swimming kit that could remain at College for the term. We have laundry facilities at College to support learners to develop their independent living skills and have the capacity to ensure swimming kits are washed after each session.



INFORMATION, ADVICE & GUIDANCE

Spring Term, 2020

Issue 3

Birtenshaw College Governing Body

Governors have recently completed Session 2 of their development programme 'Becoming an Effective Governing Board'.

The Governors at Birtenshaw College are responsible for:

- knowing its strengths and weaknesses
- helping to shape its strategic direction
- ensuring that it meets its statutory duties
- providing challenge and holding the Head of Service to account for improving the quality of teaching and learning.

If you know someone who would like to become a Governor at Birtenshaw College please contact Clare Foster for more details.



Who's Who?



Clare Foster
Head of College

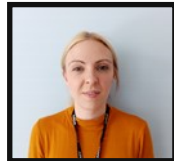


Ewa Diezek
Head of Personal
Development

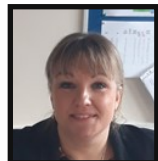


Joanne Taylor
Administrator

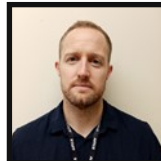
Teachers



Samantha Haslam
Group 1



Elisabeth Muse
Group 2



James Grant
Group 3

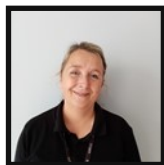


Ewa Diezek
Group 4



Lucy Watkins
Group 5

Senior Learning Support Assistants



Nicola McEwan



Salma Matadar

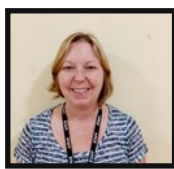


Vinesh Fatania



Carrie Webber

Learning Support Assistants



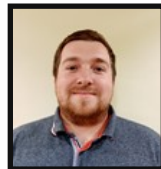
Jeanette Allport



Constant Anaset



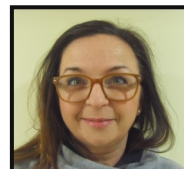
Paul Aldred



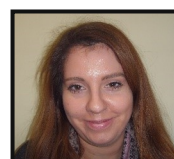
Joel Barnes



Lisa Brooks



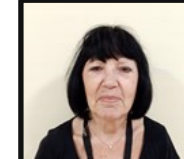
Edyta Glogowska



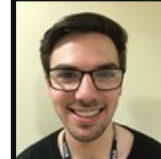
Charlotte Hatton



Michelle Heaton



Eira Heywood



Dean Hoy



Jannine Inns



Martha Khwiya



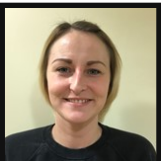
Urszula Kruk



Ajay Bhaker-Singh

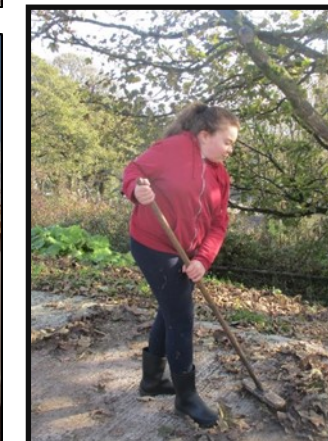
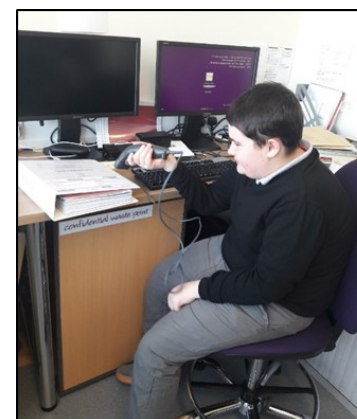
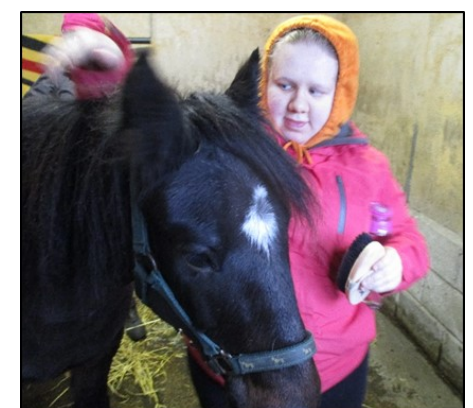


Zowie Stott



Adrienne Taylor

On work placement



Work Experience

Work Experience Quality Standard

College is currently working towards the Work Experience Quality Assurance Standard accreditation in order to assess current provision, and identify where and how it could be improved.

Job Coach Training

Nine members of staff received job coach training this term, with the aim of being better able to support learners whilst on work placement.

Connexions

Louise and Emma, Connexions Advisors, have been delivering group work activities to support our Careers Education Programme. The focus has been on searching for a job, applying for a job and interview skills. This work culminated in learners attending mock interviews at The BASE.



The Quality in Careers Standard is the national quality award for careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) in schools, colleges and work-based learning. We are currently working towards achieving this quality standard and successfully achieved Stage 2 during the Autumn Term.

The Curriculum

The curriculum intent comes directly from the College's vision and mission:

Our vision is '**brightening lives, building futures**', for young adults with Special Educational Needs and Disability.

Our Mission is to empower young adults to live fulfilling lives using person centred approaches built on respect, innovation and sustainability; to respond to the changing needs of disabled learners, preparing them for adulthood; and becoming judged in all areas as outstanding.

Most learners attend College three days each week and each learner follows the curriculum model best suited to their needs and aspirations, as stated in their Education and Health Care Plans (EHCPs):

- Model 1 Pathway: Learning for Living (Pre-Entry M1-M8)
Progression Focus: developing life skills and the ability to make choices.
- Model 2 Pathway: Preparing for Adulthood (Pre-Entry M4-M8 / Entry Level 1, 2 and 3)
Progression Focus: increased independence and development of employability skills for voluntary work.
- Model 3 Pathway: Preparing for Employability (Entry Level 1 – Level 2)
Progression Focus: increased independence and preparation for paid employment

The curriculum at Birtenshaw College is based on the Preparing for Adulthood outcomes:

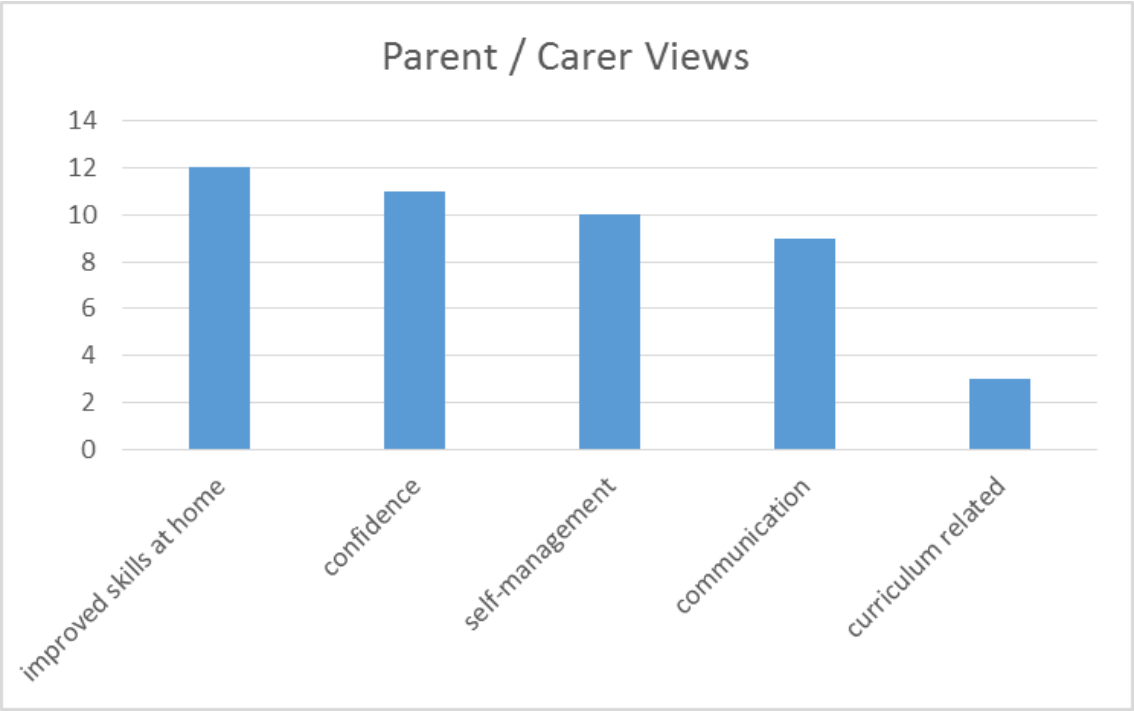
- Employment
- Independent Living (choice and control over their own lives)
- Friends, Relationships and Community
- Health



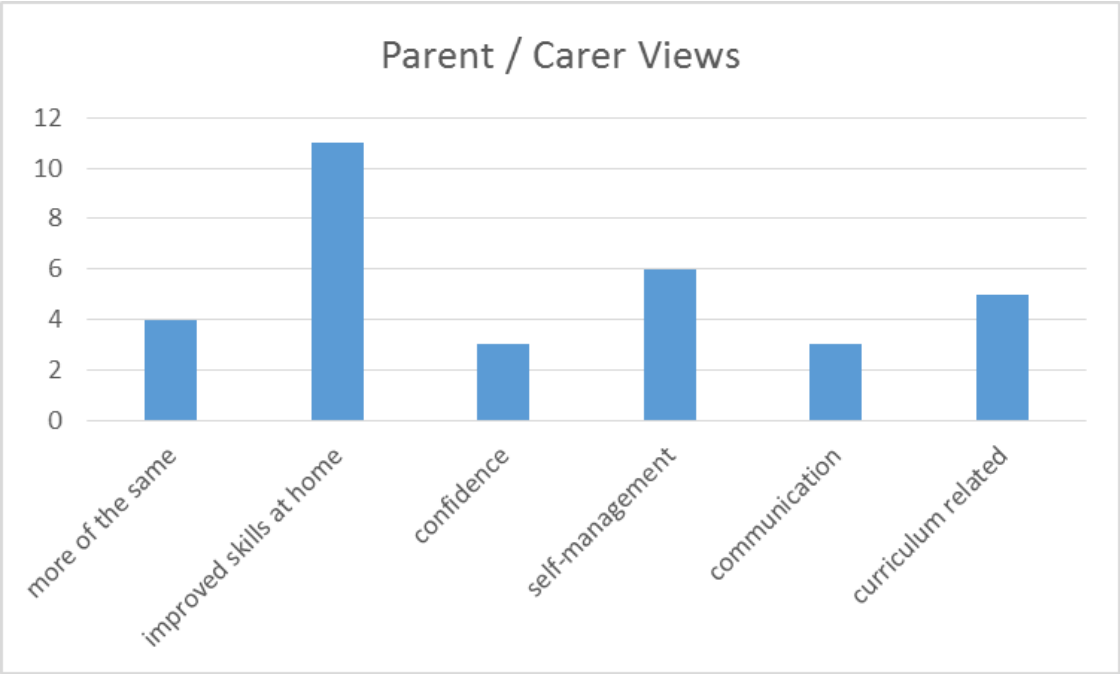
Parent / Carer Views

During the Autumn Term a letter was sent home asking parents/carers to identify the progress that had been made by their son/daughter whilst at Birtenshaw.

16 responses were received (43%) and the results are as follows:



Parents/carers were also asked what further progress they would like their son/daughter to make. This information is being used to support teachers set appropriate targets for the Spring Term.



Autumn 2019 Highlights

On the move

Following his EHCP Annual Review, staff supported David to be able to access a range of public transport. He visited the Diamond Bus depot in Bolton and, following a guided tour of the premises, practiced travelling on the bus. Since then, David has been able to access a range of community venues using public transport. Well done David!



Meet our new staff



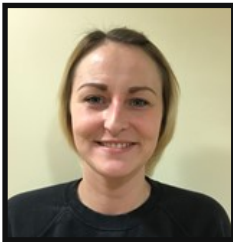
Liz Muse

My name is Liz and I am a mum of 2, Robert 10 and Charlotte 5 and I have lived in Bolton for ten years. I have been teaching for 18 years and it is a job I love. I have worked in mainstream schools for most of my career and more recently with learners with additional needs in a mainstream school. I have been keen to work in a specialist environment for a while now and so far I am loving it!



Lucy Watkins

I have been teaching for 13 years. I began my career teaching performing arts in an FE college and have been teaching in SEN primary and secondary schools and colleges for the past 3 years. I'm very excited to join the team at Birtenshaw College and to work with the fabulous learners and staff team.



Adrienne Taylor

I have previously worked in Enrichment and at a local Special School. I am currently supporting learners with complex medical and sensory needs and am really enjoying being at Birtenshaw College.

Autumn 2019 Highlights

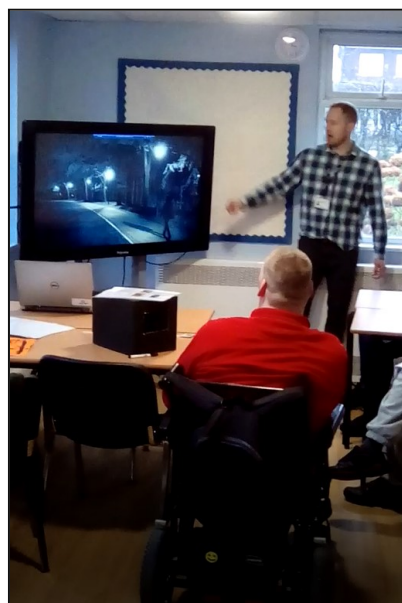
Remembrance Day

Learners from Group 1 took part in the Remembrance Service in Bolton Square on Armistice Day.



Human Rights Day

Learners celebrated Human Rights Day by looking at, and discussing, the rights we enjoy today. Activities focused on the right to be safe and supported the College's work in promoting British Values and Prevent.

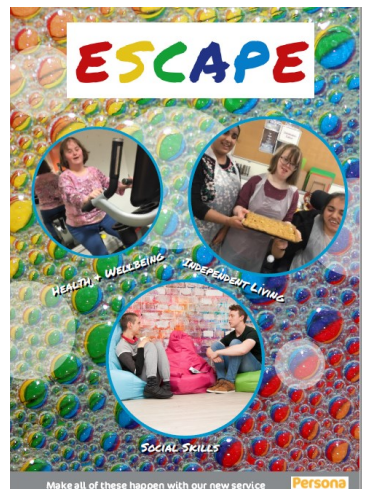


Preparing for Adulthood Meetings

Regular meetings are held at Birtenshaw College for parents/carers to share information and offer advice and guidance about a range of issues as your son/daughter prepares for adulthood. The next meeting will take place at **10am on 4 February**.

Michael Mainon, DWP Disability Employment Advisor, will be available to discuss welfare entitlements and Access to Work funding.

Julie Pierce from Persona Support will also be available to discuss their new transition service — ESCAPE.



Knowledge Shared = *Knowledge*²

Best Choices Team



We help people with a learning disability find a paid job

Bolton Council

Signposting

www.eventbrite.co.uk

Workshop for parents of children with complex speech and language problems (30 January) *Urmston Library*



Skills North West (25 & 26 March) *Event City*

Autumn 2019 Highlights

Music Therapy

Every Friday, Richard, from Nordoff-Robins, delivers music therapy to learners.



Wheels for All

Two members of staff, Jeanette and Dean, gained their Wheels for All Cycle Leader Certification to support learners having greater access to Wheels for All. This is a nationally recognised initiative to enable young people with a disability to engage in cycling activities, which promotes both physical and mental health ... as well as being fun!

Autumn 2019 Highlights

Winter Market

Learners developed their enterprise skills this term, producing products to sell at our annual Winter Market.

