**Winter Newsletter 2018-19**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, we hope you have all had a lovely Christmas. It has been great to see everyone back in school and hear about what they have been up to over the holidays.

This year our Post16 team continues to include three teachers Claire Atkinson, Annmarie Martin and Ashleigh Sinclair. Many of the support staff will remain the same with just a few new additions to the team.

This term the class topic will be popular culture, which will include Bear Grylls style team challenges and emoji keyring making to name just a few things!

We will focus on the following areas of learning:

* Preparation for adulthood, which will include individualised work related learning and enterprise programmes.
* Individualised life skills and independence programmes.
* Community and social interaction, with many opportunities to visit different places in the community including local cafes, leisure centres and work related learning taster sessions.
* Accreditation; this year we are continuing to use ASDAN for our formal accreditation. This will include a mixture of ‘Towards Independence’ modules and ‘Life Skills challenge’.

In speech and language therapy sessions, with Carralynn, Emily or Ashleigh, students will work on their individualised programmes with their preferred method of communication (BSL, PECS, Voca’s, verbal language, shape coding). This will take place throughout group sessions, such as Baking Therapy and also on a 1:1 basis.

In occupational therapy sessions, Christine or Gemma will continue to support students on their life skills, independence and behaviour for learning within everyday contexts. OTs will be working on therapy throughout the curriculum, such as in food technology as well as on a 1:1 basis.

Both speech and language therapy and occupational therapy will continue to be provided on a needs led basis for each student, which will be reviewed as appropriate throughout the year.

Please don’t hesitate to contact us on 0191 2815821 or the below email addresses if you require any further information.

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Best wishes,

Claire, Annmarie and Ashleigh