



Dear students, parents and carers,

The spring term has been an exciting period for the staff and students at Post-19. We have welcomed a new student to the service, as well as new staff to help with our growing numbers. We have been working with new exciting partners and building upon the relationships we have already established. We have also launched our own dedicated BeyondAutism Post-19 website!

Our new website is a great place to find out more information about the team which works with our students, as well as information on our term dates, opening times and policies. The website will also feature news and updates about the service. The website can be found at: www.beyondautism-post19.org.uk.

During the spring term we have welcomed Thrive, an organisation that uses gardening to change lives. Thrive have been working at our Hub in Hammersmith and Fulham to create a sensory garden area. The area by the student entrance to the building will be a relaxing area to explore the flowers, herbs and wildlife! The staff at Post-19 are extremely grateful for the donations that made this project a possibility, and we look forward to seeing the garden flourish as the students develop their new skills.

This term we have also received a kind donation to continue to fund iPads for our students to use in the Hub and when out accessing the community. Technology can be extremely helpful in facilitating learning, and the use of iPads within the service has increasingly helped with communication, developing independent leisure activities as well as supporting teaching and learning. This donation means new students accessing the service will be able to be allocated an iPad without delay.

As the service is growing, we are welcoming new members of staff. This term we have been joined by Liam Lusted. Liam has a background of working with students with autism both in a school setting and out in the community. We have welcomed Paul Libson as a full-time member of staff. Paul has worked in both Park House School and Tram House School. He has extensive experience of working with vulnerable adults and children, as well as working with adults with autism. Please give them both a warm welcome.

The service will be closing from Monday 5th April 2019 and will reopen on Wednesday 24th April 2019.

Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to seeing you in the summer term.

Kind regards,

David Anthony

Head of Post-19



Important Dates

Spring 2019

Term ends: Friday 5th April at 12:30pm

Summer 2019

Term starts: Wednesday 24th April

INSET day: 23rd April

Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May

Half Term: Monday 27th May–Friday 31st May

Term ends: Tuesday 23rd July at 12:30pm

Autumn 2019

Term starts: Thursday 5th September

INSET days 2nd to 4th September

Half Term: Monday 21st October–Friday 25th October

Term Ends: Thursday 19th December

Thrive

Our introduction to Thrive has been very exciting for both our pupils and staff! We have settled into it and Richard, our Horticultural Therapist has been sharing his enthusiasm with our students.



In their first lesson they potted garlic, shallots, and a selection of mints. All the students seemed very engaged and we are all looking forward to observing our garden flourish as winter turns into spring and the weather starts to heat up.



New Student

This term we were delighted to welcome Achol, our new student who joined full-time in early March. He has already become heavily involved in our local community by visiting local food vendors and the local parks. He has also wowed our staff with his wonderful baking talents!

Swimming Certificates

This term, three of our students have been busy working on their swimming certificates. They are each working towards different levels depending on their abilities.

This term they are focusing on safety skills, floating and travelling through the water efficiently and safely.



British Values

Over the past two terms our students have been learning about different British values.

As they've been learning and taking part in different activities the British values board at the Hub has steadily been filling up.

This is what the board looks like today!

Holiday Inn Work Experience

This term one of our students has been going to the Holiday Inn for a work experience placement.



Whilst there, his duties include polishing cutlery, folding towels and clearing tables. It's great to see his skills developing week on week and the progress that he's making.

Namco Funscape

Earlier this term two of our students spent a day together visiting Namco Funscape.



They went for a ride in the bumper cars before playing on the slot machines in the arcade. They then rounded the trip off by enjoying lunch together.

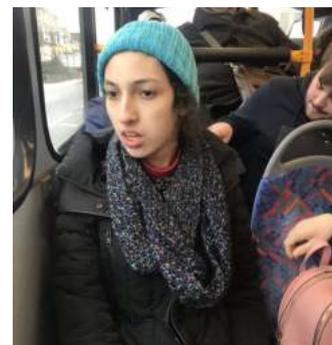


Community Participation

Community participation is one of the four strands of Preparation for Adulthood. At Post-19 all our students have community related targets which include trying out new leisure activities enabling them to have more choice and control over their lives.

A lot of our students have been bowling this term as a group. Other activities have included shopping trips to Primark, walking around South Bank along the Thames and seeing the animals at city farms.

These trips also provide learning opportunities for getting used to travelling on different modes of transport including the underground.



Nursery Work Experience

One of our students has been enjoying the great outdoors helping out at a nursery. We have now set up a new work experience for the summer term at a Nursery/Vineyard closer to home. We're excited about this starting next term and the Nursery can't wait to have him on board!



Post-19 Advisory Board: Meet the team

Chair: John Crawford, CEO, Yarrow

John joined Yarrow as CEO in November 2014. From a human rights and community development background, John began working in health and social care over thirty years ago. In the 1980's he was part of the 'Bringing People Back Home' movement which saw the closure of long stay institutions and the development of Care in the Community. John's early work was very much focused on developing a new paradigm for social care and he was a key player in designing and implementing new models of support - putting people with learning disabilities in the driving seat for the first time. Throughout his career in the Third Sector, John has designed, developed and directed a wide range of innovative services including: housing, respite care, day services, employment, education and social enterprise.



Housing / Supported Living: Sonia Simon, Care Service Manager, Yarrow

Sonia is a Care Services Manager currently working at Yarrow. She has over 30 years of experience of supporting people to lead ordinary lives in their communities. She is passionate about ensuring people have the same life opportunities as everyone else and helping them fulfil their aspirations. She is keen to use her extensive experience to help managers and staff develop their expertise in person-centred support and co-production in order to actively involve the people, their families and external partners in planning support. Sonia has been a member of the BeyondAutism Board since 2018 and her expertise will be valuable in supporting the college staff to develop transition pathways for the students to move into supported accommodation after completing their education.



Tracie Linehan, CEO

Tracie has a wealth of leadership and management experience within the field of special educational needs and disability; having experience of both charity and education, she worked for Scope for over 20 years, where she held two headships and ultimately rose to the position of Regional Director for the South of England. More recently Tracie has been Executive Head of the Autism Schools Trust where she led on setting up and developing a Free School. Tracie has experience of developing early year's provision, establishing outreach and training services, providing strategic leadership to schools and developing Post 19 and adult services.



David Anthony, Head of Post-19

David joined BeyondAutism in 2015 as Head of Sixth Form and Upper School. In 2018, he became the Head of Post-19 and is now leading and managing a service focused on achieving the best possible outcomes for our adult learners. David was initially involved in the pilot scheme of this service and is excited to be leading its development. His previous experience has always been with students who have special educational needs: in mainstream secondary schools, special independent schools and further educational colleges. He is an experienced senior leader who is passionate about students becoming active citizens in their local communities and being taught the skills to have choice and control over their lives.



Ruben Deodato, Staff Representative

Ruben achieved a BA Honours in Languages, Literatures and Cultures. He has been working within a SEN setting for the last 5 years, and at BeyondAutism since 2016. In September 2016 Ruben joined the small team at Post-19 in its pilot year and has been working there since. In 2018 joined the Post-19 Advisory Board.



Francesca Sharkey, Administrator

Francesca joined the Post-19 team in September 2018. She has over 15 years of administrative experience, the majority of which she spent with the NHS working as Office Manager at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital. More recently she has worked at Lister Hospital as well as in a primary school. Francesca is thrilled to be working at BeyondAutism, working alongside the staff and learners.





A word from the charity

Tracie Linehan, CEO

The Spring term brings lighter mornings and longer evenings, giving us much to smile about.

We are proud to challenge and have increased our active response to news items, as well as sharing our opinion on issues such as exclusion rates and EHCPs across the social media networks. You can follow us on Facebook [facebook.com/BeyondAutism](https://www.facebook.com/BeyondAutism), Twitter twitter.com/BeyondAutismUK and LinkedIn [linkedin.com/company/4984403](https://www.linkedin.com/company/4984403) as well as keeping up to date on our website www.beyondautism.org.uk.

This is year 4 of our 5-year strategy: Empowering People, Launching Lives and you can read about our achievements to date in our annual review publications beyondautism.org.uk/about-us/our-impact. I have included a one-page document in this newsletter highlighting the strategic activities for this year. One of the exciting new developments will be the Research and Learning Hub which we are aiming to launch in December 2019. Staff from across the organisation are involved in working parties to ensure that this new service is a great success. In addition to this service development Post-19 is seeking a new hub to open in September 2019, extending our offer to new areas of London. Not forgetting Early Years, we have secured funds from the Big Lottery Fund to continue this service, which is free to parents. We are aiming to increase the number of groups we can offer.

We are now looking to the future and starting to form our strategy to 2025. I would like many of our stakeholders to be involved and will be inviting you to participate in consultation events throughout the year.

Recent funding successes

- The Early Years' Service has received funding from Children in Need and the Big Lottery Fund
- British Science Week funded two egg hatching programs in the schools
- The Hedley Foundation awarded a grant for the sensory garden redevelopment project (returfing the area and purchasing equipment for Park House School EYFS play area). This funding is on top of Andrew Robertson's staggering contribution of £3,409.75 fundraised for BeyondAutism by running the Richmond Marathon

How your fundraising has helped our children and young adults

A proportion of the money raised by the Royal Parks Half Marathon team last year has been spent on much needed equipment across the services; including tablets with pre-loaded communication software for the Early Years' service and for Post-19 students (these will be used as a communication device, teaching tool, and recording daily living activities amongst other things). Some of the funds raised were also put towards vocational/employability related books for the Post-19 library.

Proceeds from a carol concert organised by one of our community partners, Eaton House the Manor School, also enabled us to purchase several sensory tunnels to be used in Occupational Therapy sessions and vibrating timers to be used as a valuable teaching tool.

The staff appreciation donations given to staff over the festive period to thank them for their dedication and hard work are being spent by teams on social teambuilding activities. Thank you for your generous donations.



Fundraising updates

Facebook birthday fundraisers – thank you to those parents that have done birthday fundraisers on Facebook for BeyondAutism. So far, you have raised £360 through this method! Please do continue to encourage birthday fundraisers as we receive 100% of the donations since Facebook do not charge a transaction fee.

AmazonSmile – BeyondAutism is now on AmazonSmile. This means you can raise money for BeyondAutism at no extra cost to yourself, simply go to smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1082599-0, login using your existing amazon account and shop as usual. 0.5% of the cost of the product will be donated to BeyondAutism.

Partnerships

Kieran and Pippa delivered an assembly to Floreat School about BeyondAutism. Floreat Wandsworth will be holding their own miniature fundraising event in the near future.

Eaton House the Manor School pupils came to Park House School to take part in a collaborative art project. They then went on to host an auction selling these pieces amongst others. Thank you to Sam Curtis who kindly purchased some wonderful pieces of art for Park House School.



Events

An enormous thank you to all the people that take on challenges on our behalf, your dedication is vital to the charity – and hugely appreciated. Here are some upcoming challenge events:

- Vitality 10K, 27th May
- Royal Parks Half Marathon, 13th October



We do still have spaces left for our annual Quiz Night on Wednesday 1st May so please contact Pippa Day at pippaday@beyondautism.org.uk or call 020 3031 9705 to book your table!



We hope you have a restful break and look forward to seeing you in the summer term!

Our Five Year Strategy: Year 4

Our People – Inspired to be their best, are valued & recognised



We will:

- Develop a Graduate/New Leader Scheme
- Develop a 'bank' worker scheme for all services.
- Develop a Wellbeing strategy and train all line managers in wellbeing initiatives
- Increase the opportunities to represent the organisation externally, at recruitment fairs & events.
- Implement HR Database & Self Service System

Our Fundraising – Donations, voluntary raised income and time build a platform of support

We will:

- Introduce and train new staff in generalist fundraising activities and relevant systems.
- Establish processes for managing key Trust/Corporate relationships.
- Make large trust applications for projects, services & capital.
- Develop website donation vehicles.
- Embed the ThankQ update.
- Create another BeyondAutism event, as well as the quiz.
- Establish Corporate engagement.



Our Properties – State of the art, in the right place at the right time

We will:

- Secure premises for the Charity office, Early years service and sixth form.
- Take steps towards making Park House a designated primary provision and Tram House a designated secondary provision.
- Establish a second Post-19 hub.
- Map out property considerations in new service project plans.



Our Finances – A viable and sustainable organisation with healthy free reserves

We will:



- Keep up to date with financial reporting.
- Increase primary school fees for new placements.
- Prepare 2 year forecast across all services.
- Extend 2 year forecast to 5 years.
- Refinance Future Builders
- Open an account with Lloyds and consider transfer of all activity.
- Transfer surplus funds to higher interest accounts.
- Review and establish trading structure for Outreach & Training.

Our Services – At the leading edge of outstanding ABA provision

Post-19:

We will:

- Develop a training package with an emphasis on training in an adult setting.
- Establish an internal ABA supervision group focusing on behavioural approaches in an adult setting.
- Evaluate the staffing structure to see if it is fit for purpose as the service develops.
- Provide external CPD in the form of postgraduate study.
- Enlist an improvement partner to help evaluate the service and ensure it follows a cycle of improvement.
- Develop new partners in local authorities, both in the care and employment sectors.
- Establish a college link programme to ensure students have access to specialist courses.



Park House School:

We will:

- Establish a Parent Forum
- Separate SLT and form ELT across both schools
- Develop partnerships
- Develop EYFS outside space and teacher expertise

Tram House School:

We will:

- Embed and extend the sixth form provision
- Develop the Kaspar project
- Develop a parental MDT support hub

Our Communication – Our brand and profile make us the “go-to” organisational for expertise and services

We will:



- Develop a strategy for becoming thought leaders in the world of education & autism.
- Build on our events portfolio.
- Develop marketing strategies for all services as they grow and promote awareness of ABA.
- Embed the concept of impact into the organisation so we can deliver an impact report by the end of 2020.
- Extend our website to provide more information about autism and ABA, as well as giving each service their own website presence.
- Focus the information we share around case studies.
- Develop a communication process to improve internal communication.

Early Years:

We will:

- Extend the early years service by running 5 days a week or operating an additional room.
- Set up the service at new locations
- Have a new location with outdoor space

Outreach:

We will:

- Secure the budget for the Outreach & Training Service
- Secure a service level agreement 1 Local Authority.
- Develop partnerships with new Local Authorities.
- Develop new training courses.