

# beyond expectations...

APRIL 2021

## ...news from Henshaws Specialist College



ADRIAN SUGDEN  
PRINCIPAL

There are many things that have impressed me over the last year. How we have learnt to be flexible, embraced technology, and how thorough our infection control systems are. However, the thing that has impressed me the most is how resilient and adaptable our students are.

They have joined in digital learning with enthusiasm, taken 'bubbles' in their stride and coped with many of the imposed restrictions without missing a beat. They are impressive and inspirational to us all. Confidence, independence and achievement are rarely more obvious than they have been over the last year.

### A fresh look for our College website

We've given our college website some much needed TLC. It's packed full with lots of useful information to celebrate everything we offer here at Henshaws. We invite you to go and take a look around!

Visit [henshaws.org.uk/college](https://henshaws.org.uk/college)

In addition to this update, work is underway on an online knowledge village for the college. We're looking forward to sharing videos, blogs and top tips. More details to be announced soon.

### "SECOND TO NONE"

Recently we had an inspection from the NHS's Deep Cleaning and Advisory Service. We are thrilled that they described our protocols, procedures and management of the pandemic as "second to none"

It was noted that everything was impressive and well executed, including lateral flow test arrangements, cleanliness, including disinfecting, social distancing, PPE stations, risk assessments and Henshaws' own track and trace system.

safety measures

Restraint  
Reduction  
Network  
Member

### SIX PART PLEDGE TO REDUCE RESTRICTIVE PRACTICE

We are committed to reducing restrictive practice and have been working hard for a number of years to embed the very best practice into our ethos and daily life. Recently we made a six part pledge to the Restraint Reduction Network, an organisation dedicated to improving people's lives through reducing restrictive practice.

The six part pledge includes embedding positive cultures, using data to inform practices, a commitment to staff training, recognising the importance of personalised support and focusing on continuous improvement.

# Updates from our bubbles

Our students have been busy both in college and at home these past few months!

Millie doing her exercises at home



Liam teaching others Kung Fu



Roisin making a valentines smoothie



Joe and Hazel enjoying a yoga session



Mounika and Patrick dressing up



Akeel telling Jay all about his favourite song



Seb using a switch to operate scissors



Charlie helping out by checking our first aid kits



Sarah and Edmund completing their Food safety and Hygiene certificates



Employability students celebrating after completing their lateral flow tests



Alex working in a friend's garden while at home



Mitchell and Jordan dress up for Children in Need



Andrew reading some stories with Lucy on one of our snow days



A fantastic display created by our PSD students





## Students deliver **BRaille** awareness course

Students, Marnie and Hira have been developing and delivering their own five week braille awareness course to College staff.

**Hira explains:** “The braille awareness course was made to help staff understand what braille is and how we use it. This will help me in the future because I want to be a teacher when I’m older.”

**Marnie adds:** “I enjoy doing crack the code and teaching about the patterns of braille. I would like to deliver the course to staff because it gives me confidence and new skills.”



## **HENSHAWS** JOINS FORCES

We have had a partnership with Harrogate Fair Trade for almost five years. Usually, our students love gaining work experience by helping out at the shop. Due to the pandemic, the shop had to shut at short notice near the busy Christmas period.

But thanks to the innovative and quick thinking of the two organisations, students were able to help set up and run an online shop. Students produced catalogue information, organised stock and helped prepare items for delivery. We’re proud to say the online shop actually resulted in greater sales during the Christmas period and we have been shortlisted for a Natspec Award for the project.



## Are you ready to scale **YORKSHIRE'S** highest peaks?

Henshaws Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge is happening again this summer on 17th July. Could you take on the challenge of 24 miles and a 1,700 metre ascent in 24 hours? Help support our fantastic charity!

Student Mason and his family completed the walk last year, raising an incredible £569 for Henshaws!



**To sign up today visit [henshaws.org.uk/fundraise](https://henshaws.org.uk/fundraise)**

## Promoting inclusive

# COMMUNICATION

Last term, our Integrated Therapy team set a communication challenge for our staff. We saw lots of innovative ways to improve communication including videos, songs and performances. Overall 384 instances of excellent communication were identified by the team!

Going forward, staff have been given a weekly Makaton challenge and will be receiving training and support with AAC devices, BSL and PECS communication strategies.



Find us on Facebook and Twitter for all the latest updates from College and our amazing students.

Please get in touch with your comments or suggestions for future issues of beyond expectations.

[henshaws.org.uk/college](https://henshaws.org.uk/college) @henshawscollege /henshawscollege [college.info@henshaws.org.uk](mailto:college.info@henshaws.org.uk) 01423 886451