

Three Bridges Education Centre September 2015



A NEW TERM

We are beginning the new term with a change of learning spaces for many of the students. Do feel free to come and have a look when you have a moment. The students have begun to settle into these and have all explored the various buildings to see the changes which took place over the summer break, including the demolition of the art block which will provide us with a lovely new outdoor space for horticulture.

CURRICULUM PLANS

As we continue to adapt our curriculum in order to make it as person centred and appropriate as possible, we are introducing Functional Skills as the programme for English, Maths & ICT. Science and PSHE will continue to be taught as discrete subjects, hopefully leading to accreditation at the same levels. This means that every student will be able to work towards a nationally recognised qualification at the level appropriate to them with the opportunity for progression at every stage.

Alongside this we will be using the ASDAN programmes to gain accreditation for the other areas of the curriculum, again at the appropriate level for each student. This means that elements of the curriculum such as cooking, horse-riding and work experience can be structured in such a way as to gain a qualification. We will discuss this in detail at the open session later in the term, but if you have any questions before then, please feel free to ring and talk to Kevin, Katie or Kathleen.

POPPETS FARM

Some of you already know that we are making links with a local Education Farm called Poppets. Most of the students will be making use of their beautiful, outdoor space, whether through riding, animal care, horticulture or as an opportunity to develop some design and technology skills.

SAILABILITY



This term some students are taking part in a Sailability course at Mylor Harbour. They will be experiencing the skills associated with safe boating and sailing, and there is the potential to work towards a sailing qualification. Our students will be supported by learning support assistants from Three Bridges and the sessions will be run and supervised by fully-qualified instructors.



WELLIES AND WATERPROOFS

With all these practical and outdoor activities we will need to be prepared for whatever Cornish weather we encounter. All students will need sufficient warm clothing and an outdoor coat this term. If you would like to leave wellies and waterproofs at school so that they are always available, they can stay in the student's learning space. We do have a washing machine at school so students can use this, which will help to develop their independence skills!



SWIMMING

For those students who swim at school, this will continue, at Chycara, on a Friday afternoon.

PERMISSION SLIPS

We are sending permission slips for off-site visits and photos/media with this newsletter as well as a blank contact sheet. Please complete these and send them back so that we can update our records.

IEPs

You will find a copy of the IEP targets for your child attached. These targets are intended to be general, life-skills targets for the next half term at least. Academic targets are set regularly within the subject areas and we will share these with you at meetings during the year. If you agree with the IEP targets, please discuss them with your child so that they are aware of your involvement and sign them together at home before returning the form to school where it will be included in their IEP document.

WORK EXPERIENCE

We are arranging work experience for all our post 16 students according to their interests and skills. We will be discussing these with their parents and achieving accreditation through ASDAN.

THE TEAM

As you know, Emma is now on maternity leave (she has a beautiful baby boy) and Danielle was so inspired by her year at Three Bridges that she has gone to complete her teaching qualification! We have two new members of the team, Beata and Marcella, and will be appointing others soon as we have a new student coming to join our post 16 group. We will also be saying goodbye to two of our team members; Katie Hess is going back to university and Sean is moving within Spectrum to work in adult services. We are sad to see them go but happy that they are both following their personal career paths.

TERM DATES FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR

AUTUMN TERM 2015

3 September – 17 December
(Half term 26 – 30 October)

SPRING TERM 2016

4 January – 24 March
(Half term 15 – 19 February)

SUMMER TERM 2016

11 April – 22 July
(Half term 30 May – 3 June)



SUGGESTIONS

If you have any suggestions, ideas or requests concerning Three Bridges, please get in touch. We are constantly developing our curriculum, our systems and resources and welcome your input. Please use the information below to stay in touch and help us to develop the community of support of which you are all an invaluable part.

Teaching staff: Kevin Finch, Kathleen Hampshire & Katie Powell

Support staff: Sonia Balfour, Jordan Edwards, Katie Hess, Hayley Hughes, Sean Minister, Beata Niesluchowska, Marcella Scott, Joanna Smardzewska, Stephen Smith, Mia Stewart-Ashley & Kelly Thomas.

CONTACT US

Please use the information below to contact us with any questions, comments or if you just want to chat about your child.

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