



# Ark Boulton Academy

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## SEND Summer Newsletter

### Mr Ptak – Leader of Enhanced Provision



Welcome!  
The summer holidays are approaching and the school is winding down to finish another great year. It has been a successful yet challenging year for our students and staff. I would like to wish all our students and their families wonderful summer holiday. Please rest and stay safe and I look forward to seeing all of you in September.



To demonstrate our commitment to provide outstanding provision for our students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) ARK Boulton Academy is seeking accreditation for the SENDIA Inclusion Award.

#### What is the SENDIA Award?

The Prospects 'SEND Inclusion Award for Schools' offers mainstream schools the opportunity to gain accreditation for outstanding provision for children with SEND. Schools are required to reflect on and improve their provision in line with a series of objectives that fulfil both Ofsted criteria and the SEND Code of Practice. Specifically, the award focuses on 'outcomes' for pupils and how schools can demonstrate the impact of their SEND provision. The Award leads schools through a process of self-evaluation, action planning and evidence collection before final verification and accreditation.

The Award will help schools develop high-quality SEND provision throughout the school by:

- o promoting awareness of SEND issues and inclusion for all staff, throughout the school and governors
- o evaluating and improving classroom practice and interventions
- o focusing on pupil outcomes

Successful completion of the Award will enable schools to:



- o gain recognition for high quality education and care for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities
- o demonstrate to parents, governors and Ofsted that provision complies with legislation and the Code of Practice for SEND and is effective in achieving good/outstanding outcomes for pupils

Senor Leadership along with all teaching staff and the Faculty of Enhanced Provision have worked really hard to provide outstanding provision for our SEND students. Obtaining the award would be a great accomplishment for students, their parent and staff at Ark Boulton Academy.

### Sports day @ Ark Boulton

On Monday 17th June Ark Boulton held our Annual Sports Day, at Wyndley Leisure Centre a short coach ride from the school. The weather held out and the day was



a success for all who attended. The SEND pupils played Boccia which was supervised by Miss Douglas and Mr Ptak. Sameera and Sufiya thoroughly enjoyed themselves and managed to score a few points for their team. However, Habiba Khatoon achieved the highest scores for her team in year 8. Well Done Habiba!! Year 7 and Year 9 also had good team players.



All the students who participated were very well behaved and delighted to have an ice cream van at the end of the game which was a fantastic treat for them.

Two claps two stomps for all students who participated in Boccia competition!!  
Ms Trench



## SEND INDUCTION DAY



On the Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June, the Enhanced Provision Team, welcomed the New Year 7's to Ark Boulton. We started the day off with 'Ice Breaker Games'. The students found this really interesting, as they got to learn their new peer's names and an interesting fact about

their soon to be new friends. They also did a birthday line up to see who was oldest and who was youngest and had to get themselves in to order.

We then took the student outside to explore their competitiveness, they all really enjoyed Boccia and target throw and loved trying not only to beat their first scores but to beat their peers in the games. When we were doing these activities the student began to really bond and all become friends with their fellow peers.

The Students then had a tour around the school, they were all really amazed at the size of the school and the facilities the school had. They were all very impressed that the



school had a gym with machines but also impressed with all the different instruments in the music classes. The students enjoyed being able to see how the current Ark Boulton students worked in the school, but also enjoyed meeting some of the teachers that may have next year when they arrive.



After the excitement of seeing the school, we then took them to the LSC to learn about a basic day at Ark Boulton and to see the different uniform they will be wearing next year. By the end of the

Session they students were really proud of themselves as they learned how to tie a tie and were all ecstatic that they finish at 1:25pm on a Friday afternoon.

The students tucked in to a school dinner which they all found delicious, all the plates were empty. All students said they really enjoyed their food and it was better than their primary school lunches.



To finish the day off, we did some team building activities. The students were really excited and couldn't wait to interact more with their peers. We played a variety of different games and the students really supported each other through out this, cheering each other, giving each other tips and generally had a big smile on their faces.

All the students, really enjoyed their visit at Ark Boulton and were really excited to be coming back on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July for another transition day. They enjoyed making new friends and meeting the teachers they will be seeing September.

Miss Brazil



## Meet Deena Smith from Pupil and School Support



Hi my name is Deena Shayaam-Smith and I am the Pupil and School Support (PSS) teacher for Ark Boulton Academy. When I was at secondary school my favourite subject was Art and English and I went on to do both at college and then a degree in Textiles design before I obtained my teaching qualification.



I have worked for the service for four years now and have loved every minute of it. Prior to joining the PSS team I was a qualified teacher for over ten years and an Assistant SENCo. I wanted to become a PSS teacher after seeing the impact that my PSS teacher had in my previous primary school. I also loved the idea of getting to work with a range of children and staff across Birmingham, within both primary and secondary settings, and the wealth of experience that I would gain from the role.

In my role as PSS I support children and young people in educational settings who have cognition and learning difficulties. I become involved with children in school if staff have concerns about a child's learning and progress. All PSS involvement is personal to the child/young person and will take place after discussion with the school about their concerns.

I often Work outside the classroom with a child to assess their skills. However my role can also entail the following:

- See how a child works in the class
- Talk about a child's learning needs with staff
- Talk to a child about how they feel about their learning
- Share ideas about what to try next
- Work with staff on how to help children with their work
- Provide a written report for the school



- Meet with parents school to discuss the work carried out
- Suggest other outside agencies who could also help
- Work with the school in monitoring progress and setting targets.
- See a child more than once to assess the progress that has been made over 6 months or a year.



Deena Shayaam-Smith

## My College Experience



On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2019 myself, Mr Ptak & Akbar (Year 11) went on the bus after school to his first ever college interview at Matthew Boulton College. Akbar was feeling nervous and excited and wanted extra support during this new experience. Before going to the college myself and Akbar had gone through some practise interview questions so Akbar was fully prepared what to expect. We caught the Number 4 bus near ABA and that had taken us straight into Birmingham City Centre and we walked around 8mins to the college.

As soon as we got to the college, we were greeted by a friendly student leader who escorted us to the student services where all interviews were taking place. We were among over 25 students waiting to be seen by a tutor. As we waited anxiously to be called out, Akbar was looking at the nearby notice boards and saw many fantastic extracurricular activities that the college has to offer for example day trip to the beach, bhangra classes, peer to peer support session etc. 15 minutes passed and Akbar was approached by a pleasant young woman who asked if he was ready for his interview. Akbar smiled and started taking his first steps towards his future as he followed the young woman to her desk. Myself and Mr Ptak followed behind. During the interview, Akbar was surprisingly very confident and was not shy to ask any questions which he had. The course he applied for was 'Health and Social Care Level 2' as Akbar would like to work within the social care sector. The tutor reassured Akbar that the college

would be able to support Akbar with his specific learning needs and guide him throughout his post 16 studies. The college visit overall was a success and Akbar expressed his excitement and enthusiasm about starting college in September 2019. We want to wish Akbar and all the class of 2019 the best of luck for the upcoming GCSE results and we hope the next chapter of your life is filled with joy and happiness.

Miss Bibi

## Farwell - Class of 2019

On Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June, the year 11's were completing their last Chemistry paper of their GCSE's and only had a 2 exams left. The faculty of Enhanced Provision decided to have a celebration in the LSC to celebrate the 5 years the year 11's with special educational needs spent with us.

We really wanted to show the Year 11s how much we appreciate the hard work they have put in the last 5 years. We had food, drink, music and certificates to award how well these students did at their time at Ark Boulton. The students were talking about all the fun times they have had at the school and telling us how much they are going to miss the school and that they appreciate all the hard work the teachers and Teaching Assistants put in to support their education. As a team, we would like to wish all of the Year 11's the best of luck in their futures and we will see them on results day.

Miss Brazil



## Dates for your diary

### Term dates

Students will break up for summer holidays from **1:00pm** on Friday 19 July and will return to school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019,

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