



PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

4th October 2024

Meet our Pastoral Manager and Safeguarding Lead



Joanne has worked within Doncaster Deaf Trust for 30 years. Throughout these years she has worked within the School, College and the college residential provision. Having profoundly Deaf grandparents gave her the communication skills she needed to begin her working career with us.

As Pastoral Manager and Safeguarding Lead, she oversees the day-to-day care and wellbeing of our students as well as the essential training of the staff team, embedding key factors into the curriculum.

Joanne says, "helping our young people to navigate life whilst being happy and safe, is what I am passionate about".

Fun facts about Joanne

- She began learning British Sign Language at the age of 5 and says you never stop learning!
- She recently developed a love for cats, her favourite is the British Shorthair, of which she has 3.
- She loves cooking and trying new recipes with her family.
- Her childhood was right here on site, as she lived here from birth till 24 years of age. The stories she could tell you!

Creepy Crawlies in Cooking

Nikolas and Jake P were set a task to use fruit ingredients that needed using up before the weekend. They were asked to design something to make and eat. They identified the ingredients to use and the design independently, researching on the internet and swapping out ingredients that we didn't have with the ingredients we did have.



Core Training

Core target training went ahead this week delivered by Cezar and Lorna. The training has been redeveloped to make this an interactive session for new and existing staff.

Drop-in sessions have also commenced this week - these are on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.



Duke of Edinburgh

Congratulations to Conna, Kyle and Callum F, who have completed their Bronze Expedition. The intrepid trio completed day walks from Finningley to Bawtry, along the River Don from Thorne and in the woods around Bawtry.

As well as the physical challenge, they learnt so many skills: teamwork, campcraft, cooking, using public transport (bus and train), shopping, map reading and fire-making.

Thanks are due to the many staff who made this success possible.

Welcome Eloise!

Eloise, a Student Speech and Language Therapist has started her university placement with us this week. She will be working across college, school and nursery on a Wednesday and Thursday until December. Welcome, Eloise!

Well Done Lorna!



A big well done to Lorna who has achieved her Professional Graduate Certificate in Education after following the Initial Teacher Education for the Lifelong Learning Sector Course.

Halloween Items for Sale

The following items are available to purchase from the Enterprise shop:

- Hanging Scarecrow/Witch - £5
- Ghost Stakes - £3
- Pumpkins - £5
- Tombstone - £5
- Pumpkin Crate - £7
- Ghost Crate - £8



Careers

Motivated Mondays will be moving to Tuesdays for a short time. Suzie Beaumont will be based in the library on a Tuesday lunchtime to offer careers advice.

If you are interested in offering work experience at your place of work, please contact our Employer Engagement Officer, Annette Morton.

We will be hosting our first Transition Event 'YOUR FUTURE YOUR CHOICE' on Wednesday 23rd October 1-6pm.



Student Voice

Student Voice Elections have now ended and we are pleased to welcome a team of 16 new representatives, joining our Chair and Deputy Chair. The first Student Voice meeting will be on Wednesday 9th October at 9am - 10:30am.