

*"A Pathway Towards Independence and Employment"*

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**London, 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2023**

Dear parents, carers and families,

I am so excited to share with you some news about our website. After a lot of work from our talented **eLearning Instructor, Frank Kasa**, we have now uploaded photos and videos for all our courses and work placements. Please visit our website and I am sure that you are going to be as moved as I was when I watched our short films:

<https://www.phoenixcollege.london/>

With this update, students will be able to navigate our website more independently and to access most of its content! It would be fantastic if you could use some time this weekend to explore our website with your child. I am sure they are going to love our videos! The final version of our website will be published after the half-term break.

#### **FREEDOM PASSES**

**As mentioned in my letters to you last academic year, all students must have their Freedom Passes with them when attending Phoenix College.** We have contacted all parents, carers and families with reminders about this.

**This academic year, students will only be able to attend Phoenix College if they have their Freedom Passes.**

**All our students have the right to travel for free with their Freedom Pass and that is an essential part of our curriculum and outcomes for every single student.**

#### **OPEN HOUSE**

**THURSDAY, 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – 4pm to 7pm**

Our Open House is open to all current, former and prospective students, parents, carers and families. Our focus on this first term will be on Year 1 parents, carers, families and students though.

Open Houses are a great chance for parents, carers and families to learn more about the progress that students are making at Phoenix College and for students to see their friends – current and former students!

#### **STAY UP LATE**

**WEDNESDAY, 20<sup>th</sup> December – 3.15pm to 7pm**

Our next Open House is taking place on the 20<sup>th</sup> December! We are really looking forward to our first **movie night** at **Genesis Cinema!**

**Please save the date!**

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### NEW TEACHER – HELEN GILLAN

I am very excited to have joined the Phoenix College team and look forward to sharing my ideas. I have been working in education for many years in a variety of provisions having initially trained as an art teacher. My passion is bringing creativity into the classroom and the importance of using art as a tool for students to express themselves and communicate their ideas and emotions. I strongly believe in student centered learning and generating new and exciting experiences for students in the classroom and the wider community. In my own time I am enjoying a children's book illustration course and love exploring art galleries and second-hand markets!

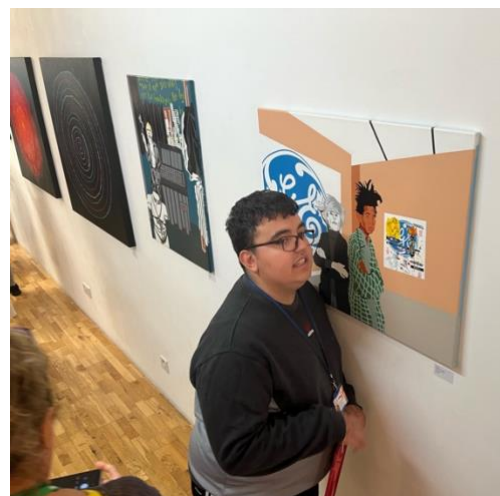
**Helen Gillan, Teacher**



### THIS WEEK

**Momo** and **Mohammed Hassan** have adjusted really well to their new class this term. It has been great to see Momo developing new friendships, he has been participating in group activities for longer periods and it has been refreshing to see Momo come to College with a smile on his face with a willingness to engage in all courses. Mohammed Hassan worked really well in *Keeping Safe* and *Travel Training* this week, demonstrating good communication skills to his peers and staff. Great work from them both!

**Darren Serrano-Griffiths, Fitness Instructor**

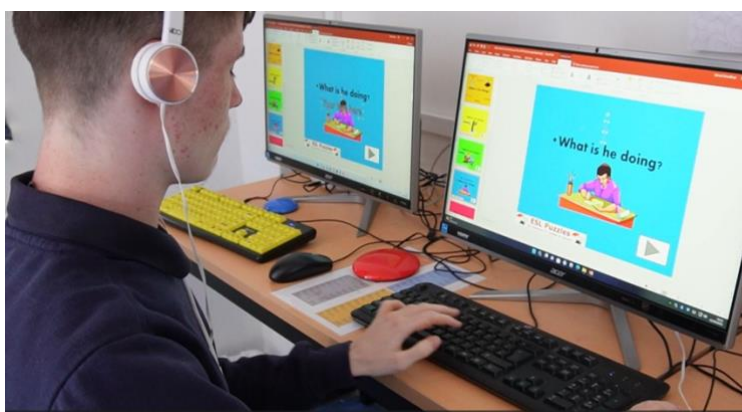


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Our talented students started 1:1 *Digital World* sessions at Phoenix College. During these sessions, students can gain a deeper understanding on data management and will develop and refine their computer skills. This is useful for them in everyday life, but also very beneficial for future work placements. **Thom** is very enthusiastic about digital technology and in this term he got the chance to practice and demonstrate his skills independently every week. We did research on Blue Whales, Racing Cars, and Dinosaurs. Thom managed to create an awesome, animated, nicely formatted presentation at the end of the session!

**Frank Kasa, eLearning Instructor**



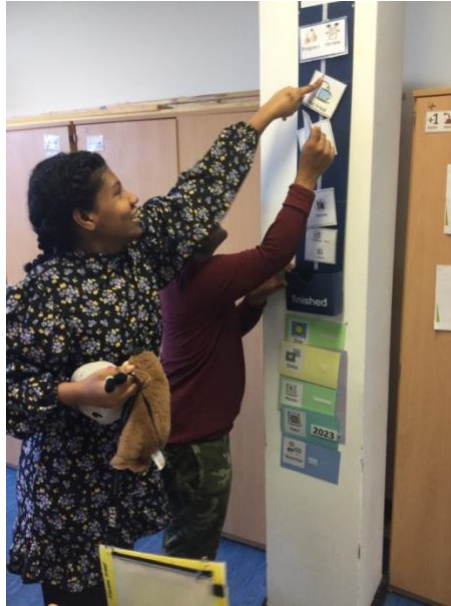
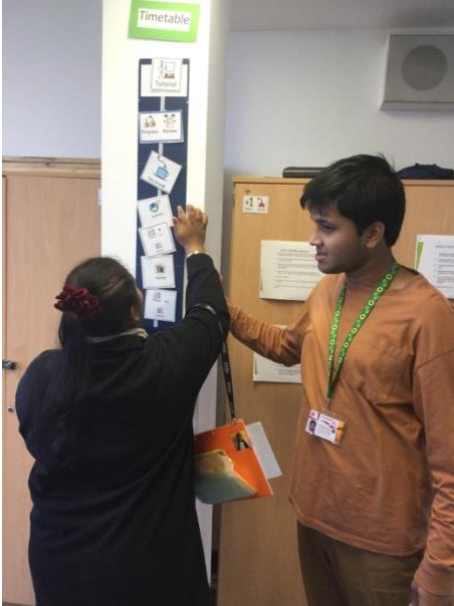
This week has been a great week for Mo's class. The 2<sup>nd</sup> week of a full timetable and all students are doing very well. Mo's class has been very inviting and warming to our new students. Our new students have settled in nicely and it feels like they have been here for years, which is so lovely. Speaking of new students, the student who has shown exceptional leadership skills and independence this week is **Nathon**. Nathon is our newest student in Mo's class and he has fit right in. Always engaged and so helpful to students and staff. Well done, Nathon!

**Mich Lecce, Job Coach**

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This week our Festive Friday is dedicated to two of our new students, **Tahseen** and **Raihan**. They have both settled in very well as they have been keen to socialize with other peers. They have been also transitioning independently to different sessions. During *Cooking*, Tahseen has shown a great interest in lessons by following the instructions with minimal support. The same for Raihan: he has been engaged in every session, especially in *Self-Care* and *Enterprise*. I also I want to share a great achievement for **Maryam Amjad** and **Maryam Ahmed**: they both have been helping new students with a timetable and transitioning smoothly. Well done everyone, keep up with a good work!

**Elena Vata, Self-Care instructor**

Have a great weekend,



**Renato Marques**  
College Principal  
Phoenix College

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