

“A Clear Pathway Towards Independence and Employment”

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London, 07th March 2025

Dear parents, carers and families,

I am excited to share with you a new position that our **Assistant Principal for Supported Internships and Outreach, Matt Snow**, our **Office Manager, Ambreen Shafiq**, and I have developed over the last few months: the role of **Advocate**. This is a very special role as we have hired a former student to represent and advocate for our current students. I am pleased to let you know that **Imran Hassan** has now taken this role! From now on, Imran will also collaborate in building new ways to communicate with our wider community, including working with me on this newsletter. Welcome to your new role, Imran!

FREEDOM PASSES

As mentioned in my letters to you since September 2023, 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

STUDENT LED CONFERENCE: 1pm-5pm

WEDNESDAY, 19th March

The best opportunity for students to share their work with you.

STAY UP LATE: 4pm-7pm

WEDNESDAY, 14th May

Our last Movie Night at Genesis Cinema!

STAY UP LATE: 4pm-7pm

THURSDAY, 11th June

Open House for all students, parents, carers and families.

Please save these dates!

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THIS WEEK



Exciting News! We are delighted to share that **Phoenix College** has been shortlisted for the **Natspec Curriculum Innovation Award** for our **Local Offer** subject, a key part of our **Preparation for Adulthood (PfA) programme**. This award recognises the innovative design of **Local Offer** and its measurable impact on student outcomes. Co-designed with the local authority for a joined-up services approach, these sessions equip students with essential knowledge of local services, fostering independence, self-advocacy, and community engagement. Our real-world learning approach helps students build confidence and practical skills, preparing them for positive, sustainable community involvement and fulfilling lives. Being shortlisted for this national award is a fantastic achievement and a testament to the dedication of our PfA team—especially **Sarah Spiro**, who leads the planning and delivery of **Local Offer** sessions. The winner will be announced at the end of March, and we will keep you updated!

Rick Nunn, Assistant Principal

This week all students in Mo’s class have been engaged and doing their best in lessons across the college. Today I would like to highlight two of our students, **Seayum** and **Tobi**. They are making so much progress in lessons and with communication. This has been possible because of the team they have behind them. All staff have been proactive to help with their learning but especially their one-to-one support staff; **Abdi** and **Liban**. The way they have been supporting Seayum and Tobi is just phenomenal, and it shows through the students' progress. Thank you, Abdi, and Liban and a very well done to Seayum and Tobi.

Mohammed Ahmed, Cooking Instructor



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This week’s **Festive Friday** recognition in Elena’s class, goes to the fantastic **Naema**! Naema has consistently demonstrated an excellent attitude towards learning and has contributed many insightful ideas during class discussions. She particularly shone during our **Keeping Safe** lesson, where she answered questions about bacteria and the importance of washing hands. Naema has also been working hard on her goal of supporting her classmates during transitions, always willing to lend a helping hand with a friendly smile. Her perseverance in fitness is commendable, and she continues to push herself in physical activities. Well done, Naema!

Helen Gillian, Teacher



This week in **Frank’s Class** at **Phoenix College**, **Tom** has truly shone with his dedication and enthusiasm! As Tom would say, his work deserves five stars! His engagement and focus have been outstanding, showing great listening skills and confidently communicating his needs using full sentences. In **Cooking**, Tom actively participated in food preparation, skilfully chopping vegetables and contributing to a delicious, loaded fries. At **The Ten Academy**, he tackled a Tell the Time worksheet with determination, improving his ability to recognize time on a clock face. His efforts did not stop there! Tom took part in litter picking at **Mudchute Farm**, demonstrating his growing sense of responsibility and care for the environment. His resilience is strengthening, and he’s well on his way to becoming a more responsible and conscious adult. A huge WELL DONE, TOM! Keep up the fantastic work!

Frank Kasa, eLearning Instructor



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The students in **Darren’s class** have been making excellent progress in their **Self-Care** sessions with **Elena Vata**. This week, they had a fantastic session focused on the importance of foot care. The highlight of the session was the foot spa experience, which the students thoroughly enjoyed. They were fully engaged and fascinated by how relaxing and soothing the foot spa felt. It is wonderful to see the students developing new skills, collaborating effectively, and making strides toward greater independence in their personal care routines.

Anila Xhika, Job Coach



Have a great weekend,



Renato Marques
College Principal
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