

"A Clear Pathway Towards Independence and Supported Employment"

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Dear parents, carers and families,

Both Alfie and Mich have been making strides in our careers programmes for many years! I am very proud to introduce them to you in their new roles.

Renato Marques – College Principal

Alfie Begum – Assistant Principal, Preparation for Adulthood (PFA)

Hello, I'm Alfie, Assistant Principal for PFA at Phoenix College.

I feel incredibly privileged to work with our students. Being welcomed into their world, getting to know them and hopefully helping to make their lives a little better is something I never take for granted.

I first started working in the special needs field at 17, when I began volunteering. Since then, I've worked in youth clubs and a number of schools across London, eventually finding my way to Phoenix. From the moment I arrived, it felt different from anywhere else I had worked, and I knew it was somewhere special.

I started at Phoenix as a Teaching Assistant and have worked my way up to Assistant Principal. Reaching this position is my biggest professional achievement to date, and I'm incredibly proud of the journey.

Above all, I feel very fortunate to be trusted by parents and carers with their children. It's a privilege that I value every day.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our **Open House** and getting to know you all a little better.

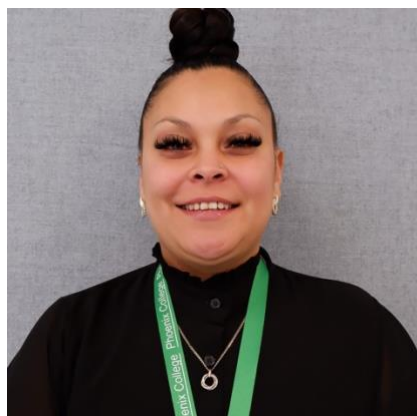
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Michelina Lecce – Careers Lead

Hello, my name is Mich, and I am the Careers Lead at Phoenix College. I have been part Phoenix College for the past five years, and I am incredibly proud to work alongside our amazing students and staff. With a background in dance and over a decade of experience in education, I have worked with students from primary school through to college, teaching dance and supporting students to achieve their potential. Working with our students is a real privilege and something I am deeply passionate about. I believe every student deserves the opportunity to develop their skills, build confidence, and explore meaningful pathways into the world of work. My role is to help create those opportunities, providing guidance, encouragement, and experiences that supports each student's individual aspirations. I look forward to getting to know our students, helping them discover their strengths, and preparing them for the exciting opportunities that lie ahead. Together, we can make a positive difference in their future.

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THIS WEEK

This week, for **Festive Friday**, we are celebrating **Hajera** and **Yousef** for their fantastic work. Hajera has been actively participating in **Digital World** and **Cooking**, following step-by-step instructions and becoming more independent. She sometimes asks staff for support when needed, showing that she is developing the ability to recognize when she needs help. Staff also provide partial support to help her complete her tasks. Hajera has also been remembering to bring her **Freedom Pass** to college every day. Yousef has made great progress with self-regulation, asking for breaks when needed and taking part in all activities. He especially enjoys **Fitness** and outdoor activities, including riding the bike. Before going out, Yousef reminds his peers about college rules and how to stay safe in the community. He is also using kind and respectful words when communicating with others. Well done, Hajera and Yousef!

Elena Vata, Lead Instructor



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This week, we would like to highlight **Reuben's** good work during his **Cooking** session. The class were challenged to prepare their own pizzas, and Reuben demonstrated his ability to follow some steps on a visual checklist with verbal prompts from staff. After preparing his meal, Reuben showed good independence and responsibility by cleaning his work area and washing the equipment he had used. Reuben is also continuing to develop his road safety skills during community-based learning. He has shown good awareness when approaching and using pedestrian crossings, responding well to guidance from staff. Well done, Reuben! Keep up the great work!

Darren Serrano-Griffiths, Lead Instructor



Ayan has had a fantastic start to the year. She is very social and builds lovely emotional bonds with her peers. She communicates well using her **iPad** and symbols and takes an active part in college activities. She really enjoyed a recent **Fitness** session at **Whitechapel Sports Centre** and has already started her **work placement** at **Ayoka Charity Shop**, where her **job coach** has given very positive feedback. Ayan is also an excellent traveller; she stays with the group, follows road-safety rules and shows growing confidence when travelling in the community. Her enthusiasm and positive energy are a real strength and help motivate everyone around her.

Ferenc Kasa, Lead Instructor



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This week, we chose **Abu** for **Festive Friday!** Abu has been engaged, focused, and enthusiastic in every session this week. He is often eager to participate and has shown a really positive attitude towards his learning. During his **work placement**, Abu took part in litter picking and did a fantastic job. He worked hard to collect litter and was also very helpful by holding the bag for his friends. During **Cooking**, Abu successfully made his own pizza from scratch with support from staff. He followed the steps well and showed great independence throughout the activity. In **Digital World**, Abu completed his work to an excellent standard and demonstrated great initiative, requiring only partial support to complete the task. It has been wonderful to see Abu come out of his shell, grow in confidence, and really enjoy being part of **Mo's class**. Well done, Abu!

Mya Chaaban, Job Coach



Have an excellent weekend,



Formatted by: **Imran Hassan** - Advocate



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