

"A Clear Pathway Towards Independence and Supported Employment"

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London, 16th October 2026

Dear parents, carers and families,

This week, I continue introducing you to our Leadership Team working on our DFN Project SEARCH programme. I knew that Osman would be our Assistant Principal for Project SEARCH and our Pre-Supported Internship programmes from the moment I met him. His experience, great personality and commitment to supporting young people with learning disabilities into employment make him a great asset to Phoenix College.

Renato Marques – College Principal



Osman Osman – Assistant Principal, Project SEARCH (PS)

Hello, I'm Osman and I joined Phoenix College this term as Assistant Principal for Supported Internships. I lead our Project SEARCH programme across Amazon, Queen Mary University of London and Clyde & Co, as well as our Pre-Supported Internship at Queen Mary.

I've worked in education for the last ten years, helping young people move into employment. Before joining Phoenix College, I was Head of Careers and Aspirations at Haverstock School in Camden, where I organised industry placements, built a network of employers to support students, and worked one to one with young people on their CVs, letters of interest and interview preparation.

My aim is simple, to help every intern build the skills, confidence and independence they need to secure and keep paid work. I'm also working with our graduates who are still looking for employment, so their progress continues after the programme ends. Families play a huge part in that, and I'm looking forward to getting to know you.

osman.osman@phoenixcollege.london

UPCOMING EVENTS

OPEN HOUSE: 16:00-19:00

WEDNESDAY, 21st October 2026

For all students! We look forward to seeing current, previous and future students attending this event.

Please save these dates!

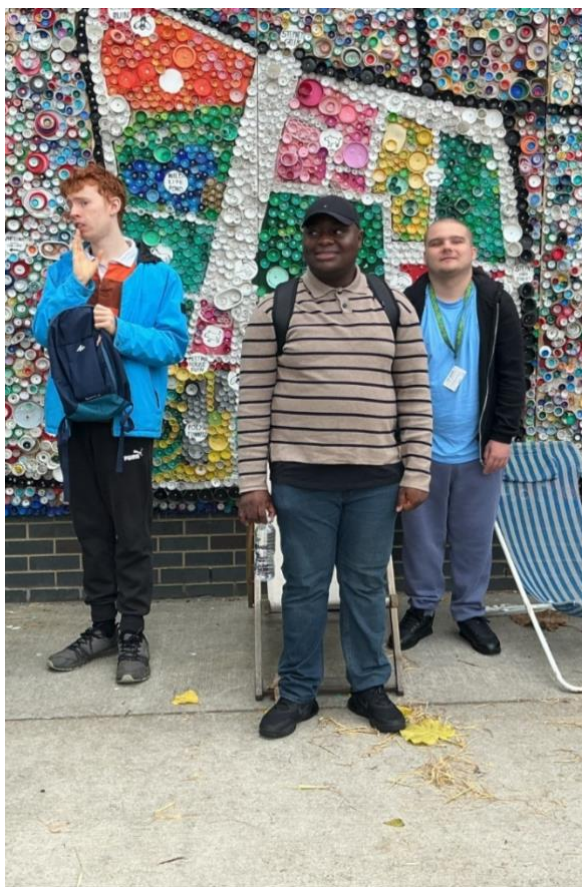
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THIS WEEK

This week's **Festive Friday** celebrates all the amazing students in **Mo's class!** As part of their group **work placement**, the students have been developing valuable skills and making a positive difference in their local community. From litter picking at **Grove Hall Park**, **Mile End Park** and **Victoria Park** to helping keep our college garden clean and tidy, they have shown great teamwork, responsibility and commitment.

This week, the students began an exciting new placement at **Stepney City Farm!** 🐐 They took part in a meet-and-greet session, where they demonstrated excellent maturity, positive attitudes and enthusiasm while learning about and feeding the animals. It was wonderful to see the students enjoying this new experience, building their confidence and developing important life and employability skills along the way. Every Tuesday, the students will continue their group work placement at the farm, where they will have more opportunities to learn, contribute and grow through hands-on experiences. A big well done to all the students in Mo's class! Keep up the fantastic work, positive attitude and team spirit. We are proud of your progress and look forward to seeing all the wonderful things you achieve next!

Mohammed Ahmed, Lead Instructor



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This week, we are delighted to celebrate **Hassan** as our **Festive Friday**! Hassan has made fantastic progress, not only this week but throughout the term, demonstrating increased confidence, independence and engagement across a range of classroom and community-based activities. In **Digital World**, Hassan has become more confident when using different digital devices and is showing greater enjoyment and interest during these sessions.

During **Cooking**, Hassan has demonstrated excellent progress in following instructions using visual checklists, alongside verbal and gestural prompts when required. He is developing his independence and practical skills, confidently holding a knife safely and chopping ingredients to prepare simple meals. However, some of Hassan's most noticeable progress has been during community-based learning, where he has shown significant improvements in his engagement, participation and willingness to try different activities. In Tennis, Hassan has demonstrated excellent fine and gross motor skills. He is able to hold a tennis racket correctly, balance a ball on his racket and bounce the ball with increasing control. He has also developed his coordination and confidence when striking a ball served to him, successfully participating in longer rallies. A particular highlight this week was our **All Ability Cycling** session at the **Olympic Park**.

Darren Serrano-Griffiths, Lead Instructor



Siyam is a pleasure to have in **Frank's Class**. He is a kind, patient and calm student who often prefers to stay in the background but takes part well in all our sessions. His patience and tolerance are incredible, and he is always a positive presence in the classroom. Siyam is also a careful traveller who follows rules well and shows a good understanding of **staying safe** in the community. He has recently started his **work placement** at **Lost Property Hotel**, working in housekeeping from 10am to 1pm. He also visits **Mudchute Farm** every **Friday**, where he takes part in the activities very nicely. It is great to see him developing his work skills and independence. We are very lucky to have Siyam in our class!

Ferenc Kasa, Lead Instructor



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This week, for **Festive Friday**, we have chosen **Chirag** and **Riha** in recognition of their excellent work and progress during all the sessions. Although this is their first year at college, both students have settled in very quickly, socialized well, and made new friends. Chirag has shown great progress in taking responsibility for cleaning the dining hall after lunch. Previously, he needed prompting from staff, but now he approaches staff and points to the cleaning tasks on the cupboard. Staff use the prompt, **"What do you need?"** to encourage him to identify the task and take the initiative. This demonstrates his progress in recognizing cleaning tasks and engaging more actively in the routine. Similarly, Riha has made excellent progress. She now needs only partial support from staff to follow instructions. When needed, staff use the prompt, **"What's next?"** to help her understand the next step and continue with the task. Their progress, positive attitudes, and efforts to develop their skills make them both very deserving of this recognition. In terms of their favourite sessions, Riha particularly enjoys **Digital World, Cooking** and **Fitness** while Chirag enjoys **Travel in the Community and Cooking**. Well done to both Chirag and Riha for their hard work and achievements!

Elena Vata, Lead Instructor



Have a great weekend,

Formatted by:



Imran Hassan -
Advocate



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