



## July 2023 Issue 2

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## SEND Local Area and Alternative Provision Strategy 2023–2026

### Cabinet Meeting



It was a pleasure to be joined by our young people and parent/carers who represented the SEND Community at the Cabinet meeting on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023. You can now access live webcasts of council and cabinet meetings. I hope you are inspired as much as we were!!

We will continue to work together to implement this strategy; to turn our collective ambitions for children and young people in Croydon into a measurable reality that makes a lasting difference to their outcomes.

If you would like to become a member of our priority workstreams please send your contact details to: [SENDtransformation@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:SENDtransformation@croydon.gov.uk)

## What's on this summer from HENRY

### Healthy Families: Brighter Future Programme

An online 8-week evidence-based programme that supports families with children aged 0-7 years to develop a healthier lifestyle.

- Beginning 26th July 7pm-8.15pm

"This is the best thing I could possibly have done to help me be a better mum!"



SCAN ME



SCAN ME

### Eating Well for Less Workshop

Would you like to eat more healthily as a family, but you're not sure where to begin or how to manage it without breaking the bank?

This workshop helps the whole family to eat well for less.

- 2nd August - 2pm-3:15pm online
- 14th August - 7pm-8:15pm online

### Starting Solids workshop

Starting solid foods is the start of a new chapter for you and your baby. Come to a Starting Solids workshop to help you get your baby off to a great start.

- 7th August 1pm-3pm, Kensington Avenue Children's Centre
- 8th August 1pm-3pm at Selhurst Children's Centre

(Under 6 months non-crawling babies are welcome to attend)



"Starting solids has been a very fun and messy journey. The workshop really helped me feel confident and enjoy the process."



SCAN ME



[www.henry.org.uk/croydon](http://www.henry.org.uk/croydon)

Please find attached a flyer to share with families to let them know about what is taking place at HENRY over the summer. Spaces are limited and parents will need to scan the QR codes or email us at [croydon@henry.org.uk](mailto:croydon@henry.org.uk) to reserve a space



# Core Training

Developing skills in using the proven  
**HENRY** approach to lifestyle change



This course helps practitioners gain the knowledge, skills and confidence to provide effective support for parents and carers so they can give their children a healthy, happy childhood

“ Easily the best training course I've ever been on ”

Practitioners will:

- Understand the role of early years in future health and wellbeing
- Adopt a partnership and empathic approach to working with families around parenting skills, lifestyle habits, nutrition, physical activity and emotional wellbeing
- Adopt a strength-based and solution-focused approach to exploring family lifestyle issues
- Be able to provide clear messaging on healthy nutrition and physical activity for children aged 0 to 7 in a way that resonates with parents



Research shows practitioners continue to use HENRY skills 5 years later  
96% feel confident to support parents to provide a happy, healthy childhood

We still have some spaces available on our August Core Training and are hoping to boost our numbers. If you can share this with any practitioners who work with families, it would be much appreciated. Email us at [croydon@henry.org.uk](mailto:croydon@henry.org.uk) to reserve a space.

A vibrant blue poster for the CYA Summer Programme. At the top left is a large yellow sun with orange rays. The background is decorated with several white, fluffy clouds. The text is centered and uses a mix of white and yellow colors for emphasis.

# CYA SUMMER

Unlock Your Potential:  
Register Today for an Unforgettable **4-Week** Journey  
with the **Croydon Youth Assembly**  
**ALL FREE**  
Empower Your **Dreams** with  
Workshops, Training, and Beyond!  
Unleash Your **Creativity** with  
Access to **Media** TV/Podcast Studios.  
Lead the Way with **Community**-Based Activities  
Savor the Deliciousness of Food and Drinks  
For Ages **13 to 17**  
Start Date  
**24 July 2023**  
Mon - Wed from **12:00 - 15:00**  
**@ Croydon Town Hall**  
Katharine St, Croydon CR0 1NX

**PLEASE USE THE  
QR CODE TO REGISTER**





If you have any children and young people who would like to access programmes. For the full directory please follow link below:



Croydon HAF  
Summer Programme



## Important REMINDERS

### Speech and Language Therapy Mini-tender - Allen Speech & Language Ltd.

#### A new short-term service

We wanted to let you know that a new speech and language service has been commissioned on a six-month contract to provide extra capacity to meet the needs of children.

The provider is called Allen Speech & Language Ltd. and they will provide several speech and language therapists to deliver some interventions with children.

#### Issues of concern raised by parent/carers and some colleagues

This note sets out to acknowledge the disappointment that some families and schools may have that their child/ren are not benefitting from this service. The aim of this commission is to increase capacity in the short term and see how the model of a new private provider works to meet need.

#### Reason this short-term service is being provided

All the stakeholders understand there are long term plans to commission a major new contract for therapies in relation to SEND. This short-term arrangement is a trial using a new provider and increases capacity whilst the replacement contract is prepared.

#### Developing the new long-term contract

Whilst a great deal of engagement and consultation has been provided by stakeholders previously, this still needs work to develop the contract. Some examples of work that needs to be completed and signed off includes: an Equalities Impact Assessment, a specification and approvals needs to be agreed by both the ICB and the council. Once completed tendering, a selection process, appointment and mobilisation all need to be completed in a few short months.

As the stages develop there will be opportunities to engage and comment on the design of the service. The current timeline for the mobilisation of the new main contract is targeting a date in January 2024.

### SEND Secondary Transfer – Preference Form Deadline

All parents of children in Year 5 should have received a letter from Croydon SEND 0-11 team advising them of the secondary transfer process. All parents need to complete this form and send it back to [secondary.transfers2024@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:secondary.transfers2024@croydon.gov.uk) before **30<sup>th</sup> September 2023**. If you have not received a copy of this form, please contact your coordinator or school SENCO.



Secondary Transfer  
Preference Form

## Internship opportunities for young autistic people and people with learning disabilities - Beginning in September 2023

### What are supported internships?

Supported internships are a one-year work-based study programme, where young people spend the majority of their time based at an employer.

They provide an important step on the employment journey, helping young people aged 16 to 24 with an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP) or another form of Special Educational Needs (SEN) support to get the skills they need for work so they can get into a job.

Paid employment for adults is a key determinant of good health, and the natural supports that come with employed status are paramount in enabling people to cope with the challenges they face as they go through adulthood.

### The commitment in the NHS Long Term Plan

The [NHS Long Term Plan](#) says that: 'We will continue to offer more opportunities for people with a learning disability and for people with autism. Supported Internship opportunities targeted at people with a learning disability and/or autism will increase by 2023/24, with at least half converted to paid employment over the first five years of the Long-Term Plan. The number of NHS internship and employment programmes/sites delivered through 'Project Search' and 'Project Choice' will increase as will the number of NHS organisations making the Learning Disability Employment Programme Pledge.'

Wellington House will be host to a wide range of intern opportunities across the building, for young autistic people and people with learning disabilities, starting in September 2023. This internship programme aims to provide an opportunity for young people to gain valuable first-time experience in a workplace environment and to gain a wide range of skills across multiple different teams.

As part of the programme, we will host an internship information session on Friday 21 July at 12pm. This session will cover all aspects of the internship, how it works, the day-to-day aspects of the internship and the overall aims of the programme.

If your department/team is interested in taking part in the internship programme, or if you would like to attend the internship information session to learn more, please contact [abdi.abdikarim@nhs.net](mailto:abdi.abdikarim@nhs.net)



## SEND Journey – Celebrating the end of the year!



The Brit Prom was a very special night.

To meet and gather one last time before we all go in different directions. I've made so many friends in all strands. There was much dancing, lots of pizza and a chocolate fountain, I really didn't want this night to end.

It's been a wonderful 2 years at the Brit school where I studied Production Arts, specializing in set design but also covering various aspects of stage production, such as lighting and sound. I also managed to receive each week a music production lesson which is my passion.

Brit is my last formal full-time education and there is no better way I feel to go out.

I think my key early moments of nursery and primary school probably set me on the course of things to come, doing a lot of art and taking part in competitions for it, getting involved in the local community has also been good for me.

At primary school I won a redesign competition for the local playground.

I have my head teacher back then, Annie Mitchell, to thank for that, and all that encouraged me so much. Miss John at Oasis Academy Coulsdon I thank too.

From here on now I want to explore the opportunities with my creativity. I've recently been the sound and lighting technician for a drama production, I'm booked soon on a course to learn to create professional, mechanical stick puppets used in stop motion animation. I'm also working very hard on my music production, I hope to be putting out releases soon.

I know it's going to be exciting, hard work and always worthwhile.

I would like to honour my late primary school headteacher here who has recently passed away. Mrs Annie Mitchell of Coulsdon Church of England Primary. Thank you for all the wonderful support and cherished memories you gave to us all.

Zach

## Get in Touch

### SEND Local Offer

Services, advice, information and what's on in and around Croydon.  
<https://localoffer.croydon.gov.uk/>

### Croydon SEND Transformation

[sendtransformation@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:sendtransformation@croydon.gov.uk)

