

Spa Camberwell, Southampton Way, SE5 7EW  
A special school for autistic pupils



5<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to all our families.

It was great to see so many of you at Wednesday's Speech and Language drop-in session. The event provided a valuable opportunity to share information about the speech and language therapy available to our pupils. It was particularly helpful to hear parents' and carers' perspectives on sharing targets, progress, and outcomes, as well as the importance of developing strong, consistent approaches between home and school and the value of practical, easy-to-implement strategies that can be embedded into everyday routines to support and enhance pupils' communication skills.

## Highlights from the Week

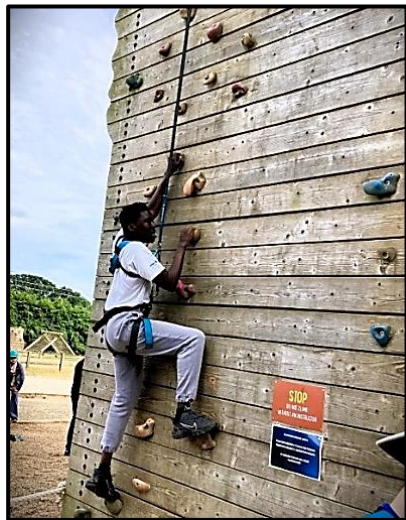
### Year 11 Residential

This week, Year 11 students attended a three-day residential visit to PGL Grosvenor Hall near Ashford. The residential is always one of the highlights of the school year, providing students with a fantastic opportunity to build confidence, strengthen social skills, develop greater independence, and apply many of the life skills they have been working on throughout their time at school.

For many students, this was their first experience spending the night away from home, making it both an exciting and significant challenge. Throughout the three days, the students demonstrated exceptional independence, resilience, and maturity. They embraced new experiences with enthusiasm, showing a real sense of adventure and a willingness to step beyond their comfort zones as they participated in a range of exciting activities.

We are incredibly proud of all the students for their achievements during the trip. Riley's reflection on the residential perfectly captures the spirit of the experience: *"I feel proud to have been part of such a special trip"*.

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### **Teen Life Programme**

On Friday, we welcomed Shervinia Sullivan, who delivered the first session of the Teen Life Programme. Developed by the National Autistic Society, this six-session course is designed specifically for parents and carers of autistic young people aged 10–16. The programme aims to empower families by providing practical strategies, valuable information, and a supportive environment to help navigate the opportunities and challenges of the teenage years.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who have signed up to take part. For those who expressed an interest but were unable to secure a place due to limited availability, we will be in touch when the programme is offered again in the future

### **Online safety**

#### **A Practical Toolkit for Families**

The Molly Rose Foundation has some wonderful resources for parents, including guides and other resources. One of these guides helps families understand who and what may be shaping a child's online world and how these influences can affect mood, confidence and safety. To download this guide and check some of the other resources, see the link below.

Link - [\*\*Molly Rose Foundation - A Practical Toolkit for Families\*\*](#)

### **Looking Ahead**

- **Occupational Therapy Drop In Session (Anxiety & Regulation)** – Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> June at 2 pm.
- **National Autistic Society - Earlybird Plus Parent Training Programme** – Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> June at 9.45 am (first session)
- **Sports Day** – Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July
- **Parents Evening** – Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> July
- **Spa Camberwell Carnival** – Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> July
- **Year 11s Leavers Event** – Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> July
- **Last Day of Term** – Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> July

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## **Support and activities for families**

### **Stronger Together Parenting Support Group – Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)**

Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Children and Family Hubs run the Stronger Together Parenting Support Group, comprising of five weekly sessions aimed at supporting and empowering parents and carers of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). The group was created in direct response to the local need for increased support for families navigating the challenges of raising children with SEND.

The sessions provide a safe, inclusive, and non-judgmental space where families can connect, share lived experiences and learn from one another. Parents play an active role in shaping the content of each session by sharing their real-life challenges and identifying priority areas of need. In response, we offer sustainable, practical tools and strategies that holistically support families.

Families will receive dates, times and exact location when they sign up.

Please email [familyhub@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:familyhub@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk) for more information.

### **The Neurodiversity Family Hub**

The Neurodiversity Family Hub provides services to Children and Young People with neurodiversity and their families, including parent/carer Coffee Mornings.

[Click here to see upcoming dates](#)

**Location:** 56 Southwark Bridge Road, London, SE1 0AS

Further details of services that the Neurodiversity Family Hub provide can be found [here](#).

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A black poster with white and colored text and graphics. It features the Access Sport logo, the text "Save the Date!", event details for Saturday 27 June 2026 at The Alex Yee Ladywell Arena, and logos for GLL, Lewisham, South East London Tennis, NHS, and Disability Sports Coach. The right side of the poster is a collage of photos showing children participating in sports, with large black geometric shapes overlaid on a colored background.

 Access Sport

# Save the Date!

For the Lewisham Disability Sports Network Multi-Sport SEND Festival, open to all abilities, aged 5-25!

Saturday 27 June 2026  
The Alex Yee Ladywell Arena, SE6 4QX  
14.00 - 16.00

[www.AccessSport.org.uk](http://www.AccessSport.org.uk)

### **Spectrum Socials: Autistic and Neurodivergent Children from 4 to 18 years old**

Spectrum Socials runs therapist-led social events for autistic children and their families, focused on building friendships, connections and social skills.

- Children are placed in small groups, based on age and communication level, to ensure social compatibility.
- We offer therapeutic girls groups for adolescents who are struggling with social anxiety, involving a combination of online and in-person sessions.
- Subsidised places are provided for lower-income families to make our activities accessible to all.
- We support parents and carers by fostering community, connection, and peer support at events and through online platforms.

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Examples of events: Trampolining and play, bowling and pizza, Paradox Museum and lunch, soft play and lunch, Hyde Park pizza and pedalos.

Where: Events around London

When: School holidays and weekends

Who for: Autistic and neurodivergent children from 4 to 18 years old.

What happens: Each event typically accommodates around 6 children and is run by a therapist or a behaviour analyst. Event helpers with training and experience in working with autistic children will also be present. Social stories are sent to children before the events to ensure they feel prepared. Parents are invited to join a WhatsApp group with those coming to help build lasting connections.

Website: <https://spectrumsocials.co.uk/>

Register with us here: [Booking Form](#)

Girls Group: <https://spectrumsocials.co.uk/girls-group>

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/spectrumsocials.cic](http://www.instagram.com/spectrumsocials.cic)

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**PLAY LIKE A GIRL**

# PAN-DISABILITY FOOTBALL



**Fridays**

**Ages 5-11**

**1700 - 1800**

**Prendergast  
Ladywell School  
SE4 1SA**

## SIGN UP & PLAY!

 [girlsunitedfa.org/londonclub](https://girlsunitedfa.org/londonclub)  
or email [lee@girlsunitedfa.org](mailto:lee@girlsunitedfa.org)

 **GIRLS UNITED**

Supported by  **Access Sport** 

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### **Disability Sports Coach - Hoopz Inclusive Basketball at Burgess Park**

Thank you for your interest in Disability Sports Coach - Hoopz Inclusive Basketball sessions at Burgess Park. Please read the following information and complete the form below. If you are registering on behalf of somebody else to attend the session (such as your child), please fill the below form with their details.

These sessions are for D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent young people aged 8 - 25.

- Where: Burgess Park Basketball Court, Cobourg Road, SE5 OJB
- When: Thursdays 17.00 - 18.00. Restarting from 7th May 2026.
- Ages: 8 - 25
- Cost: FREE

Book tickets [HERE](#)

A colorful poster for a WhatsApp group. At the top is a heart with the text "HAVE AN ABILITY THAT ADWORDS". Below it, the title "Southwark SEN Parents/Carers WhatsApp Group" is written in large blue letters. Underneath, it says "Connect with other Southwark parents and carers". A list of benefits is provided: "Information sharing of SEN services", "Signposting to SEN services within the borough (local offer, SIAS)", "Free SEN related virtual training", and "Life experience support from other parents/carers." To the right is a QR code with a WhatsApp icon in the center, and the text "Scan the QR code to join!". The poster is decorated with colorful stars and cartoon characters of diverse people.

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# STEPPING FORWARD

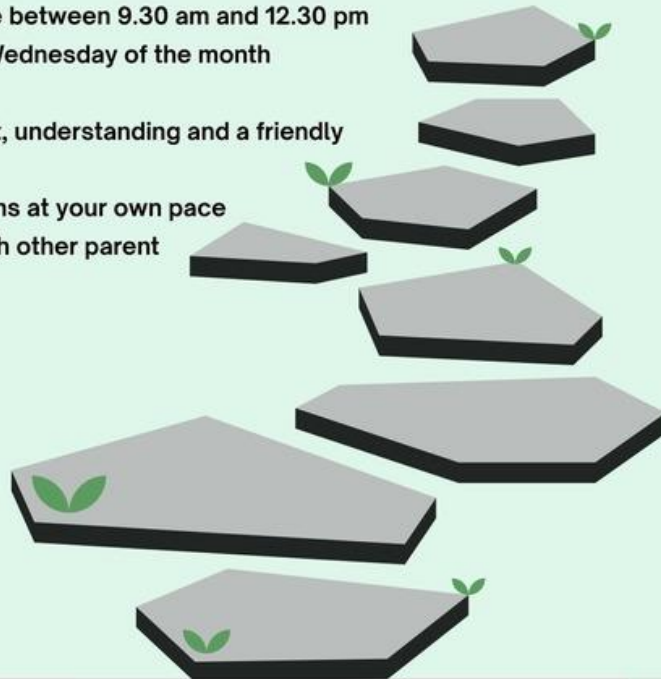
A friendly drop in for parents with learning needs or neurodiversity

Location:

Rye Oak Best Start Family Hub  
Whorlton Road,  
Southwark,  
London, SE15 3PD

Drop in any time between 9.30 am and 12.30 pm  
Every second Wednesday of the month

- Find support, understanding and a friendly chat
- Ask questions at your own pace
- Connect with other parent



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT RYE OAK BEST START FAMILY HUB  
OR EMAIL: [PARENTING@SOUTHWARK.GOV.UK](mailto:PARENTING@SOUTHWARK.GOV.UK)



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## DEBT & WELFARE ADVICE

**DROP-IN SESSIONS**  
FREE, CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE IS AVAILABLE ACROSS BEST START FAMILY HUBS



**THE FAMILY FINANCIAL RESILIENCE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (FFRP) IS A GLA FUNDED PROGRAMME TO HELP FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN ACCESS FREE, HIGH-QUALITY SOCIAL WELFARE ADVICE**

SPECIALIST ADVISORS FROM CITIZENS ADVICE & CAMBRIDGE HOUSE CAN HELP WITH:  
MAXIMISING YOUR INCOME, ISSUES SUCH AS IMMIGRATION, EMPLOYMENT, CHILDCARE SUPPORT AND HOUSING

**POP IN TO A BEST START FAMILY HUB OR CONTACT THEM FOR MORE INFORMATION OR BOOK AN APPOINTMENT**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>BEST START FAMILY HUB DULWICH WOOD &amp; CRAWFORD CENTRE</b><br/>ALTERNATING MONDAYS- ALL DAY<br/>CALL: 0207 525 2017<br/>EMAIL: CDCFCOFFICES@DULWICHWOOD.COM</p> | <p><b>COIN STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE</b><br/>TUESDAYS- 10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM<br/>CALL: 020 7021 1600<br/>EMAIL: F.CENTREENQUIRIES@COINSTREET.ORG</p>           |
| <p><b>BEST START FAMILY HUB RYE OAK</b><br/>WEDNESDAYS- 9:30 AM TO 12:30 PM<br/>CALL: 020 3848 5790<br/>EMAIL: CHILDRENSCENTRE@RIVYDALE.SOUTHWARK.SCH.UK</p>            | <p><b>BEST START FAMILY HUB SOUTH BERMONDSEY</b><br/>FRIDAYS- 10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM<br/>CALL: 0207 358 2878<br/>EMAIL: FAMILYHUB@FYLGRIMSWAY.SOUTHWARK.SCH.UK</p> |

**FAMILY HUBS**

 Citizens Advice

SUPPORTED BY MAYOR OF LONDON



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 **TAP – IN SESSIONS**

**Free and stand alone information sessions for parents and carers on a range of topics.**  
**Join us with Thinking About Parenting and TAP in to.....**

All sessions held online - link will be sent out 1-2 days before session via email

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April</b><br>10am - 12<br>MS Teams<br><a href="#">Parenting and Autism</a>               | <b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April</b><br>10am - 12<br>MS Teams<br><a href="#">Parenting and ADHD</a>          | <b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May</b><br>10am - 11.30<br>MS Teams<br><a href="#">Ages and Stages</a>     |
| <b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b><br>10am - 11.30<br>MS Teams<br><a href="#">Parenting Foundations</a>             | <b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b><br>10am - 11.30<br>MS Teams<br><a href="#">Parental Emotional Wellbeing</a> | <b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June</b><br>10am - 11.30<br>MS Teams<br><a href="#">Bullying Awareness</a> |
| <b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June</b><br>10am - 11.30<br>MS Teams<br><a href="#">Emotional Based School Avoidance</a> | <b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June</b><br>10am - 11.30<br>MS Teams<br><a href="#">Digital Safety</a>              | <b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July</b><br>10am<br>MS Teams<br><a href="#">Parenting and ADHD</a>         |
| <b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July</b><br>10am<br>MS Teams<br><a href="#">Parenting and Autism</a>                   | <b>To register: Scan the QR code</b>  |  |

 **Contact: Beth Gilbey**  
Email: [bethany.gilbey@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:bethany.gilbey@southwark.gov.uk)  
[parenting@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:parenting@southwark.gov.uk)  
Or call: 07394 865 980



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As always, thank you for your continued support. We wish you and your family a restful and enjoyable weekend.

*Steph Lea*

Steph Lea  
Executive Headteacher