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



19th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move into the fourth week of the school year, it has been wonderful to see our students settling into their routines, building friendships, and engaging in rich and meaningful learning experiences.

We hope our secondary parents and carers found the recent therapist meetings valuable, and that our primary families enjoyed the "Meet the Class" sessions. It was a pleasure to see you and to share the important work happening in classrooms.

Looking ahead, we have a number of opportunities for parent and carer engagement, and we warmly encourage you to join us. Please find the upcoming dates listed below.

# Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September

• 9.30 am - KS3 meet the class

# Tuesday, 23rd September

• 2.15 pm - KS2 Meet the therapists

# Thursday, 25th September

- 9:10 am Autism and Starting Secondary School (All KS3 and 4 families welcome)
- 2:10 pm Autism and Starting Primary School (For Mint, Brenchley, Burgess and Rye classes)

# Tuesday, 30th September

• 2.15 pm - Meet the therapists Belair, Sunray and Neptune

#### **Visitor**

Krys McInnis, the Chair of the Local Governing Body, will be visiting on Monday, 22nd September. We look forward to giving Krys a warm welcome and the opportunity to meet our staff, families, and pupils.



## **Parent Governor**

We are fortunate to have Iman Ali representing parents on our Local Governing Body. We now have an opportunity for another parent to join as a Parent Governor. This is a chance to help shape the future of our school and ensure every child's voice is heard. If you are interested in finding out more please speak with Steph, Rian or Erin.

Tel: 020 3434 5210 Email: officecamberwell@spa-education.org Web: www.spa-education.org

# **Autism Accreditation Advanced Status**

During the summer term, our school took part in the *National Autistic Society's Autism Accreditation*. We are immensely proud to announce that we have successfully retained our Advanced Status. Here are some of the key highlights from the accreditation team's feedback:

This award recognises not only the school's exemplary neuro-inclusive provision, but its deep and ongoing commitment to the dignity, autonomy, and emotional wellbeing of every autistic student.

The school's approach consistently exceeds expectations across all areas.

Communication and social interaction are supported through a Total Communication Approach that enables pupils to express themselves using methods that suit their needs.

Sensory regulation and emotional literacy are embedded into daily routines, with thoughtfully designed low-arousal spaces and staff-led co-regulation practices.

Structured sensory circuits, the Zones of Regulation, and bespoke resources enable students to explore, understand, and manage their emotional states with increasing independence.

The curriculum is carefully structured to build functional skills from the earliest stages of learning.

Clear routines, tailored resources, and opportunities for pupil leadership allow students to thrive academically and personally.

Staff model trust and empathy, creating relationships where pupils feel safe, relaxed, and able to access support naturally. Peer groups are inclusive and strengths-based, reinforcing mutual respect and collaboration.

Case studies show transformative progress, describing how students have developed greater confidence, communication, and regulation.

Overall, very positive survey feedback from pupils and parents affirms the school's consistent excellence. Parents described their children as happier, more communicative, and increasingly independent. Students at Spa Camberwell reported a largely positive experience, saying they receive good help. Many felt understood by staff and said adults actively support their goals and preferences. Comments like "school is fun" and "I feel happy" highlight a sense of safety, support, and emotional wellbeing.

## **Online Safety - Location Sharing**

We all know that location sharing can be a really good thing, but only when that sharing is managed appropriately and only with very specific known persons, not to everyone. Thankfully, gone are the days when you uploaded a post onto social media your location was automatically included, but there are still location sharing features in some apps. As a timely reminder for parents to check their child's device, this is a very informative <a href="ARTICLE">ARTICLE</a>.

## **World's Biggest Coffee Morning**

We warmly invite all parents and carers to join us for a relaxing cup of tea and a biscuit on **Friday**, **26th September**, **from 9:15 am**. This is another opportunity to meet other parents and carers, share experiences, and take a well-deserved break from the everyday hustle and bustle. We look forward to welcoming you and spending some time together.

Thank you for your support as always.

Steph Lea

**Executive Headteacher** 

