

VI Team Newsletter

Spring 2025

We have had a busy few months here at the VI team! See our newsletter for what we have been up to and what we have coming up!

Page 1- general information

Page 2- pupil socials

Page 3- competitions

Page 4- community/ sports information

Please let us know your good news stories or make suggestions for the next newsletter! You can also contact us with any enquiries at: visualimpairmentteam@rotherham.gov.uk

Parent sessions

- The May CVI parents session has been moved to Tuesday 20th May at 11.30 at Kimberworth place.
- Parents coffee morning with a focus on accessible technology will be on 24th March- please watch out for further information.

If you would like to book either of these sessions, please email us at:

visualimpairmentteam@rotherham.gov.uk

GOOD NEWS STORIES

- Harry has settled well into nursery and is now doing full sessions!
- Libby completed a money identification block as part of her habilitation curriculum and successfully made a purchase from the 'pop up' shop!
- Millie used a liquid level indicator and independently made a drink of orange cordial!
- Hollie is successfully using technology in sessions and her touch typing is progressing well!
- Harrison received the no excuses award from school for creating solutions with a focus on positive thinking.

What is Habilitation?

Rotherham Visual Impairment Team are committed to ensuring our young people are as independent as possible and are prepared for future life. Young people with a visual impairment may require additional support in order to achieve these skills which will be taught in line with eligibility criteria, by a Habilitation Specialist.

Habilitation involves one-to-one training for children and young people. Starting from their existing skills, it aims to develop their personal mobility, navigation, independent living, and social skills. Habilitation training supports children and young people to develop confidence, make choices, travel safely and efficiently, and develop the day-to-day skills needed to live as independent a life as possible.

Lisa Waddington is our Habilitation Specialist, and she will be sharing further information and tips in future newsletters.

Chocolate social....

Join us for all things chocolate themed!

On Wednesday 16th April 4-5pm @ Kimberworth Place

This event is open to all VI pupils.

Pupils are to attend the session independently for children over 5, due to restricted space. Appropriate levels of staffing will be provided. Siblings are welcome!

Children aged 5 and under will need a parent to stay with them.

A parent's room is available in the next room with coffee and cake while you wait for your child.

This event is completely free!

Space for all children attending, will need to be **booked by Monday 7th April**

Please email: visualimpairmentteam@rotherham.gov.uk to book your spaces.

PUPIL SOCIALS

We had a great time at our gingerbread house making and valentines crafts events! Have a look at our creations! We would love to see you at our next one!





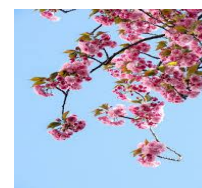
Winter competition winner!



Maddy is a winter competition winner who made this amazing fireplace with her family! Well done Maddy! She will be receiving a frozen toy for her prize!



Spring competition



We want to see how you are spending your spring!

Show us photos of you enjoying the spring weather, exploring the spring flowers, or show us your spring crafts or baking! We will be looking for a winner to claim a prize!

This competition is open to all children on our caseload- all ages and all abilities are encouraged to enter!

A prize will be selected appropriate to the winning child! Runners up will get a sweet treat!



Send photos of your entry to visualimpairmentteam@rotherham.gov.uk by 28th April

Fancy trying blind and visually impaired football??

Why not give this a go?



PROJECT B1 FOOTBALL

Football sessions for blind and visually impaired people of all ages.

Upcoming Sessions
Mondays // 5-6pm:

- November 4th, 11th, 18th
- December 2nd, 9th, 18th
- January 13th, 27th
- February 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th
- March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st

Venue
English Institute of Sport Sheffield
Coleridge Road, Sheffield, S9 5DA

Cost
Free to attend

How to book
Please contact Julie Callaghan at
Julie.Callaghan@sheffieldfa.com or 07736 946696

Swimming!

Rotherham leisure centres are offering partial funded 1-1 swimming for children with SEND. Please see photo for information or contact you local leisure centre.



Residential

The RSBC are planning the adventure of a life time this October for young people aged 16-25. This action-packed experience will include thrilling activities like climbing, abseiling, canoeing, and bushcraft. There are only ten spaces so if you are interested, please complete the application form [here](#).