

# SEND Weekly Newsletter 17 October 2018



Issue 13

## Laying foundations for next special school



Children from Selworthy School have been helping lay the first bricks of their new Hazelbrook Campus.

The youngsters joined representatives from Somerset County Council to kick-off construction of the £9m building in Taunton which will provide an extra 80-100 places for pupils with a range of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), including autism.

It's purpose-built, state-of-the-art facilities will meet the local demand for places and make sure children can access education much closer to home. This cuts down on travel times, disruption and costs of school placements elsewhere in – and even outside – the county.

Being closer to home, the Council-funded new build will also help families to engage more closely with the school and develop a sense of community.

Councillor Frances Nicholson, Cabinet Member for Children's Services at Somerset County Council, said the school shows the Council's continued commitment to providing school places where they are needed.

### AIM: supporting inclusion in mainstream schools

You should be aware of the new Somerset Inclusion Audit previously covered in this newsletter.

All schools which return an Inclusion Audit will get an AIM - Annual Inclusion Meeting with the Learning Support Service

This will help you demonstrate your whole school approach so is likely to be most effective if the SENCO, Headteacher and SEND Governor can all attend together.



# Make sure you get your flu jab - protect them

Do you work directly with young people or children with SEND in a care setting?

If you do, you may be eligible for a free flu jab as part of this year's staff flu vaccination programme.

But you need to hurry, there are just three clinics left:

- Friday 19 October: 13.00 – 16.00. Warwick House Medical Centre, Upper Holway Road, Taunton, TA1 2QA. No booking required.



- Wednesday 24 October 24: 15.30 – 17.30. Taunton Road Medical Centre, Taunton Road, Bridgwater, TA6 3LS. Call 01278 720000 to book
- Friday 26 October: 08.30 – 10.30. Taunton Road Medical Centre, Taunton Road, Bridgwater, TA6 3LS. Call 01278 720000 to book

**When attending ensure you take your SCC ID badge and if calling to book an appointment quote 'council staff flu clinic'.**

## Experiences on camera

Young people with SEND who work with our Participation and Engagement Team at Somerset County Council are featured in a new film project.

Jemma Lang, Engagement and Participation officer at the Council was invited to speak about her experiences of employing young people with SEND.

It's part of a film project called 'Same Difference' which explores the reasons why employers should make employing people with disabilities a top priority.

You'll be able to see the film on the [SEND Participation Facebook](#) page soon.

\*If you're a young person looking for a job you might want to visit this Facebook page on a regular basis as the team posts vacancies each week.

## Short breaks reminder

If you're a parent carer or young person you should have received the Short Breaks Calendar and Newsletter which details all sorts of activities available in your area during the half term.

The Calendar is laid out in an easy –read format with dates at the top and activities below and there are symbols and a key to ensure the content is accessible to everybody.

All the activity providers have experience of working with children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or disabilities and their families.

You can download a copy [here](#) and there's a video which tells you about it [here](#).

