

# Kirklees SEND Newsletter



## Introducing the Our Voice team

The Kirklees Our Voice team help children and young people to make their voices heard and let the council know what they think about decisions that are being made about them.

This is important because it helps the council to ensure the voices of children and young people are at the heart of our planning. The Our Voice team have made a short video to explain who they are and what they do - you can find it here - [https://youtu.be/vSAcT\\_kx4R8](https://youtu.be/vSAcT_kx4R8)



## Home to School Travel Consultation

Kirklees Council is planning to make some changes to the way eligible post-16 young people with additional needs are helped to access their place of education.

The changes will relate only to young people of sixth form age who are eligible for travel assistance - and your views will help to shape the way forward. A consultation has now opened and all the details are available on the Local Offer website – [kirkleeslocaloffer.org.uk/information-and-advice/school-transport/proposed-changes-to-post-16-transport/](http://kirkleeslocaloffer.org.uk/information-and-advice/school-transport/proposed-changes-to-post-16-transport/)

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## Project Search Graduation 2023

Congratulations to the latest group of young people with learning disabilities and autism who have graduated from Project Search.

Project Search is a popular scheme helping young people into the world of employment whilst also giving them more confidence and new skills.

Kirklees is a national leader in this programme - find out more in our news story on Kirklees Together - [kirkleestogether.co.uk/2023/09/27/congratulations-to-our-2023-project-search-graduates/](https://kirkleestogether.co.uk/2023/09/27/congratulations-to-our-2023-project-search-graduates/)



## Launch of Inclusion Counts guidance

New guidance has been launched for all practitioners who work in early years settings, such as pre-schools and nurseries providing childcare and education for 0 – 5 year olds.

This guidance is designed to help adults identify the specific support needs of children with SEND and to adapt the way they work. This will help to plan effective teaching and additional provision where needed which will help children to make good progress.

The guidance is written for early years professionals and is available on the Local Offer for everyone to see - [kirkleeslocaloffer.org.uk/sendco-professional-information-and-resources-page/early-years/inclusion-counts/](https://kirkleeslocaloffer.org.uk/sendco-professional-information-and-resources-page/early-years/inclusion-counts/)

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## Come along to the official launch of Blossom

As part of the council's work to continue improving SEND provision across Kirklees, Woodley School and College has expanded.

Woodley now operates Blossom, a shop in Byram Arcade, Huddersfield town centre, which will provide students aged 16 to 19 with many exciting opportunities such as learning new skills, gaining work experience and developing customer service.

Blossom sells a wide range of products made by students themselves, including cards, candles, coasters and personalised mugs. Profits will go back into Blossom funding more equipment, more products and even more experiences.

The council is also working on plans for Woodley School and College to move to a new site in Almondbury. This is a long-term process involving a multi-million pound investment.

Blossom will be officially launched on **Wednesday December 13<sup>th</sup> (2pm to 4pm)** and everyone is invited to come along, have a look around and meet students and staff.



You can find Blossom at **28/29 Byram Arcade, Westgate, Huddersfield, HD1 1ND.**

Find Blossom on Instagram @woodleyblossom.