

VI Team Newsletter



Spring 2024

Welcome to the VI Spring newsletter. Read on for further information on our team, the children we support, help available and events you may be interested in.

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

JOIN US FOR AN EASTER CHOCOLATE EVENT!

Wednesday 27th March 3.30-4.30pm

@ Kimberworth Place

Join us to design and make your own chocolate bar!

Open to pupils of all ages.

Pupils under the age of 6 years will need a parent or guardian to attend with them.

For older pupils, they may attend alone.

Coffee and tea will be available for adults waiting for their child.

Email to book on!

VisualImpairmentTeam@rotherham.gov.uk



GOOD NEWS STORIES!!



- ✓ The Teachers of Visual Impairment have recently accessed Regional and National training events which will improve our practice!
- ✓ All our TA's are now seizure trained by Rotherham Epilepsy Service

- ✓ RP is now using her kit, overcoming her initial difficulties.
- ✓ SA is now on his last set of contractions for his braille.
- ✓ KLD is now able to make some journeys around school independently.
- ✓ JB is now wearing her glasses all of the time.
- ✓ AK has been advocating for her visual access.
- ✓ MR has got an AAC device and is learning to use it.

GUIDE DOGS APPLICATIONS FOR TECHNOLOGY NOW OPEN!

Guide Dogs can help your family choose the best assistive technology and equipment to support your child and because we work with other agencies, suppliers and organisations, our advice is comprehensive, and up to date. It's also completely unbiased, as we don't sell any equipment ourselves.



What sort of assistive technology can I apply for?

You can apply for a range of technology tools, including:

- Laptops with magnification, speech, and Screen Reader software
- Braille and refreshable Braille Devices
- Video magnification

Click here for applications and more information:

[Tech for All](#) | [Apply for Assistive Technology](#) | [Guide Dogs UK](#)

External support and events:

LOOK UK offer peer mentoring form young adults with VI, for young people ages 11-29 years.

Peer Mentoring Projects for VI Young People – Look UK (look-uk.org)

LOOK UK have a parent support group for any parents of children with a VI.

Parent Support Group – LOOK – Supporting Visually Impaired Young People to Thrive (look-uk.org)

LOOK UK offer a range of events, residentials and even an upcoming festival!

Events Archives – LOOK – Supporting Visually Impaired Young People to Thrive (look-uk.org)

LOOK UK and VICTA invite you to join us for our parent advice workshop discussing the power of connection and the impact building a community can have on your mental health.

How to help your vision impaired child feel less isolated and build a sense of belonging. – LOOK – Supporting Visually Impaired Young People to Thrive (look-uk.org)

RNIB have launched a new document on reasonable adjustments for children with Visual Impairments. This explains what is possible in schools to meet pupil needs.

Reasonable Adjustments in Schools - England 2024 (azureedge.net)

VICTA are running a summer camp for 14-17 year olds in Doncaster

VICTA Summer Camp 2024 - VICTA

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday 30th March 11.30am-1.30pm,

café and activities available from 10.30-3pm

@ Wilberforce House, The Grove, York, YO24 1AN

Wilberforce Trust are offering an easter egg hunt for young people with a Visual Impairment and their siblings. Easter eggs will make a noise so they can be found. Open to young people 0-25years.

To book, email:

clubwilber@wilberforcetrust.org.uk



Channel 5-Milkshake! Mix 'em ups

A new animated programme for young children that features disabled characters including a character with a Vision Impairment. It is developed and produced by a team with lived experience of disability, and with support from the UK government.

