



Newsletter Spring 2 2024

Applied Maths and English in vocational education.

At Plan B, we strive to work hard for our students, parents, carers and commissioners. Our delivery model works well alongside schools to give practical application to academic subjects. For example, there is a huge amount of maths involved in carpentry and boat building. Boats are symmetrical, planks need to meet to ensure you have not got a hole in the bottom, and if your measurements are not right, it will be a funny looking craft. Our music sessions involve lots more than instruments and equipment. Often they are English lessons, using the spoken word, spelling and punctuation whether traditional song writing or 'spitting some bars' griming lyrics, they need to be grammatically correct in order to bring your audience on the journey of your sound. The weights and measures during preparing food are not only giving valuable skills for independent living, but helping our addition, subtraction, division and multiplication in the guise of preparing good wholesome food, cakes and snacks. We are proud of our strong vocational routes and can shout from the rooftops that they compliment our students' academic learning, applying the base knowledge in practical applications and not only learning the practical knowledge, but also learning academia by stealth.



The Proof is in the Pudding.

Regular readers of our newsletter will be well aware by now that our students love to cook. Led as always by our highly competent and experienced kitchen manager Martin, they have been turning out dish after dish, lunch after lunch and from breakfast until afternoon break time snacks and home time the kitchen is a hive of activity. The feedback is constantly positive, and our students don't just eat in abundance, but they eat well chosen and well prepared healthy, nutritious and delicious food. But now, you don't just have to take our word for it. Our Proof is in the Pudding project, generously supported by Gosport Borough Councils Community Grant and UK Harvest allows you to be the judge of that. Our students are now inviting you to come dine with us, and taste for yourselves. Beginning on Wednesday the 10th of April, Plan B supporters will be invited to a 2 course lunch onsite designed, planned, budgeted, provisioned, prepared and served by our catering students. This not only gives us the opportunity to thank our supporters and have our students and staff showcase some of our work, this also gives students the experience and feeling of working in a commercial environment, replicating the conditions they would face in the catering industry. This introduces elements to challenge their organisation, dedication, passion, time management, responsibility and delivery. It is equally a networking opportunity for students, parents, carers, commissioners, partners and supporters to discuss all things food, Plan B alternative provision, our aspirations into employability and much more. Please book early to enjoy our hospitality and judge for yourself the effects of vocational education as a route to employability within the hospitality, catering industry and beyond. Invitations will be forthcoming in the near future and we look forward to serving you soon.



Barista & front of house

Pizza



Post 16's increase in numbers, stature and opportunities.

We always give credit where credit is due, and this half term we take our hats off to the local authority for working with our Post 16 cohort in recognizing that SEN (Special Educational Needs) does not disappear by virtue of leaving secondary school. We talk about transitions a lot, and the difficulty of moving on from a small, bespoke 'SEMH' provision to a large, FE college is often too big a change, lacks the nurture and wrap around support and leads to lack of engagement non attendance, low self esteem and any progress in secondary reversed in a term. Plan B's 'Internship style provision allows our Post 16's to keep the benefits of a small bespoke provision, focused on independent living, skills for life and employability. In partnership with our hard working neighbours at Able Steel, they were generous with their time to take on one of our students for invaluable work experience. Measuring , marking, cutting, shaping and welding. Leaving home at 0630 did not phase him and he thoroughly enjoyed the work, learnt a huge amount and understands far more about careers in the construction industry. Feedback from both sides was very positive and he is invited back for site work experience after Easter. Another of our Post 16's has a traineeship at a carpentry company for 2 days per week alongside his time at Plan B which is complimenting the skills he is developing with us. We are also supporting one of our long term students who we helped transition to college with a day per week internship. Alfie P has more hours at Pitt St and becoming a staple member of their team whilst still being a big part at Plan B including supporting Martin in the kitchen and our new supporters lunches. We have also enrolled yet another Post 16 student this term, and more enquiries waiting in the wings. Well done them, us and Hampshire SEN.





Learning and developing in the Great Outdoors.

Plan B students have got many skills. Sitting in a classroom aside, they are a talented bunch, and this really comes out in the great outdoors. Whether it's a game of football, bringing in teamwork, leadership, camaraderie and banter alongside skills and control. Or the talent some of our students have on 2 wheels at a skatepark, not only showing the amazing skills they have acquired through dedicated hard work and practice, but also their ability and desire to teach other students and pass on these skills is always a joy to behold. Our students also enjoy the pad and bag work sessions, led by our skilled non contact boxing coach, Dan. These sessions have been the catalyst for some of our students to join boxing clubs after school and added a viable, productive activity to their extra curricular pastimes. Fishing is a very popular activity with our students. The tactics, thought and skills that are put into outwitting a carp onto your hook, and gently coaxing it to the bank before removing it from the water with care, for the obligatory photo and weigh in before replacing it unharmed back into the water. This is no easy task, but some of our students are masters at the art of course fishing. We are very lucky at Plan B to be able to provide the space and opportunity for our eclectic bunch of students to show off their unique talents and skills, and receive the praise they truly deserve.



This term, we have also...

Lifted out one of our Squib keelboats. Fitted American white oak seats in our newbuild Romney, and furthered the fitout with gunnels, knees and breast hook. We have delivered more food parcels from UK Harvest for our students, families and community partner projects. We bought a powerboat, currently being improved for fishing and training. We have donated fresh and frozen food boxes to crisis Gosport, Marvels and Meltdowns and the trash café. We have also received donations excess food donations from the Trash café for cooking and redistribution. We have made some amazing clocks from upcycled wood. We have boosted out Pitt St partnership, allowing our students to skate (pre paid) through the holidays. Students have ran the Gosport mile (yet again). We also received another generous donation from the Gosport Road Runners. We have engaged students that have lost confidence and self esteem and help rebuild this in them. We also receive a grant from Gosport Borough Council to roll out or semi commercial cooking programme Proof is in the Pudding. Met the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Richard Earle. We have cooked lots more food, ate well and exercised even better.

Thanks to... Gosport Borough Council, Able Steel Ltd and Pitt Street Undercover Skatepark, yet again.



Even more amazing support this month from...

Treebeard Trust. Howdens Insurance. Britannia Corporate Events. Haslar Marina. Fairview Sailing. Penelope Holdings. Trafalgar Property Consultancy. Howden Joinery. Langstone Adventure Rowing. Peas in a Pod Consulting LTD. Boatfolk. Dauntsey's School and Jolie Brise. Churchers Solicitors. YouBoat Chandlery. ATRacing. GBC. Dame Caroline Dinenage DBE MP. Councillor Jamie Hutchinson. Flick Drummond MP Hampshire CC. Councillor John Beavis MBE. Councillor John Gledhill. Hardway SC. The Alverbank Hotel. Wessex Resins. Cromwell Tools. Dream Yacht Charter. Inclusion Hampshire. British Marine. Open Awards. British Rowing. British Canoeing. Boatshed IOW. Lyn Hill Designs. MCO sailing, Phil Hadley. Nowmarine. Minerva Technical and MinervaEurope. The Royal Yachting Association. STANLEY Smallcraft, Alex Ward AKA Mini. Councillor Zoe Huggins. Councillor Lesley Meenaghan. Gosport Borough Council. The Friends of Hardway. Music Matters. The Luna Foundation. Gosport Road Runners and the Gosport Half Marathon fund. Mary Montagu-Scott. Jonathan Cheshire and Sail Training International. Malcolm Hicks and Family. Jon Carver. Chris Best and the Mound Close. ASDA foundation. Councillor Martin Pepper. Pitt Street Indoor Skatepark project. Moreland Motors. The Marine Advertising agency. RS Sailing. UK Harvest. The Trash Cafe. Able Steel. Marvels and Meltdowns. Our esteemed Members, and all our fab volunteers who have helped us so much so far...



TEAM PROFILE: Workshop Trainee & Student Support

Archie P

With many years of first hand experience in the Pupil Referral Unit and alternative provision world, Archie is well placed to provide empathetic support to the students of Plan B. With a passion for outdoor education and skills to pass on, he is an asset to us and our students to engage with, and learn alongside.



STUDENTS PROFILE: Josh G

A positive and upbeat student who always brightens up our day.



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