



## Newsletter Autumn 2 2023

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**Music for creativity, communication and  
cooperation.**

To students at Plan B, Music is more than just for recreation. It is a tool. To listen, learn, edit, mix, collaborate and share. This is one of the many reasons we have formed a partnership with Music Matters ([thismusicmatters.co.uk](http://thismusicmatters.co.uk)) to build a music studio at our Park Street base. We all communicate, all the time. whether that is through talking, texting, body language, and actions positive and negative. Our students are no different, although often their way to communicate can be through behaviour. They are often struggling to say what they may be feeling, or too anxious and struggling to understand how to gain the positive attention they need to attract which would help through an escalating moment. Hans Christian Anderson said, "Where words fail, music speaks". Our music studio combined with the skills of our instructors gives students the ability to communicate in a positive way, be listened to in an environment they are comfortable with, and show off their best 'selves'.



**What a half term this has been.**

Who would have thought we could get any busier than Autumn 1? But our fabulous students (old and new) combined with our amazing team of Instructors here at Plan B, have surpassed all expectations. Every corner of every space has been occupied with individual and group activities, and there has been a constant hum of communication with a drum and base beat behind it echoing from the music studio. Our bike mechanics workshop has been busy with students benefiting from the knowledge and experience of our qualified Instructor Obelix. They are all understanding entry level engineering in a practical form and learning skills for life with the ability to repair, service and maintain their own bike at home and also helping family and friends maintain theirs, which is making our students even more useful in their communities. We have canoed every Wednesday this term, come rain or shine. Our intrepid bunch of year 6's have been working towards their British canoeing 'Paddlestart' award which is the National governing bodies entry level qualification into the sport. We have seen these younger students grow in confidence and competence over the weeks and their dedication has paid dividends for their self esteem, their experience and their resilience. We are pleased to report, they all passed with flying colours. Our Kitchen has once again been a hive of activity. Students have all got involved and led by our kitchen manager Martin, they have planned, budgeted, shopped, prepared, cooked and served students and staff throughout the weeks with wholesome and nutritious meals. We have continued with sweet and savoury snack development also, and throughout this half term students have been baking as a thanks to our kind neighbours on the estate and handing out well received treats of brownies, jam tarts, cakes, mince pies and more. Not forgetting of course our carpentry workshop. This term we have made more picture frames, with students learning the 'half lap mitre joint' in an aim to create the perfect 4 corners of their frames, before a coat of varnish and taking home for high praise. We have also had a 'run' on wooden Christmas trees in the last couple of weeks, which combined with painting and fixing baubles, have looked fabulous. The older students have also been steaming and bending some oak to strengthen the frames on the Cornish gig 'Speculation' this term too. They will next learn the traditional method of roving, using copper nails to fix the frames in place. All in all, there has been something for everyone this term. Good work everybody.





Pizza



Barista & front of house



## Our Post 16's pathway to independence

Previous newsletters have referred to a couple of our longstanding Post 16's journeys with Plan B so far and our regular newsletter readers, social media followers and supporters will know parts of their Post 16 journeys so far. We have always been very clear in where we feel our provision can support year's 12 and 13's into employment, giving skills and qualifications. Alongside the hand skills, cookery skills, employability skills, citizenship skills we offer, transportation is a huge aspect of all our daily lives, and can often be a tough nut to crack. In light of this and with our support, Alfie P and Louis B have taken (and passed) their Compulsory Basic Training (CBT), allowing them to ride motorbikes or mopeds up to 125cc. Both boys were elated at achieving this huge milestone in their lives, and will reap the rewards from this for years to come. Well done boys. We are proud of you!!







## Plan B and Music Matters welcomes The Mayor

On a damp and wet December afternoon, nothing could have been more warming, than welcoming our hard working Gosport Mayor, Councillor Martin Pepper to officially open our new music studio. He was treated to homemade mince pies and a lesson in digital recording. The afternoon went into the evening and saw a steady flow of interested visitors check out our new space and hear what is on offer for 2024. We were entertained by some of our talented students such as Post 16 student Alfie Morris on guitar, and Phin Anderson pumping out some 'Drum and Base' on the decks.

Mayor Martin Pepper said...I had the pleasure of opening the "this music matters" and what a fantastic initiative it is. In the heart of Gosport it gives young people access to the most advanced computing technology, enabling them to create their own music, in their own style. Music matters offers the opportunity for youngsters who for whatever reason find formal schooling difficult. The training opportunities are endless. A really positive training environment means the students learn at their own pace, developing their own style. Perhaps most important is the career opportunities it opens up in technical appointments and the arts more widely. Who knows, future music stars pumping out the Gosport sound. this Music Matters is a great initiative that deserves success.

Thank You to all involved.



## This term, we have also...

Ran the Gosport half marathon. Worked alongside the probation service to support ex offenders. Worked with Pitt street indoor skatepark for further Post 16 work experience. Worked with Military Mentors to show students what it is like in the services. Visited Chichester college to help students decide on Further education options. We have supported 2 of our ex students with transitions through into work and college. We have hosted visitors Hampshire wide for discussions on the demand for Alternative Provision places, and how Plan B supports students, parents, schools and commissioners. And we have received generous donations from, The Marine Advertising Agency, Asda, and RS Sailing. Thank you all so much.





## Once again, the support from all these individuals and organisations has been amazing and our list still grows.

Treebeard Trust. A-Plan 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. Arthur's Chandlery. ATRacing GBC. Dame Caroline Dinenage DBE MP. Councillor Jamie Hutchinson. Flick Drummond MP Hampshire CC. Councillor John Beavis MBE. Councillor John Gledhill. Guardian Yacht Services Southampton YOS. Hardway SC. The Alverbank Hotel. Wessex Resins. Cromwell Tools. Dream Yacht Charter. Inclusion Hampshire. British Marine. Open Awards. British Rowing. British Canoeing. Southampton Social Services. Progressioncare. Boatshed IOW. Lyn Hill Designs. MCO sailing, Phil Hadley. Nowmarine. Minerva Technical. The Royal Yachting Association. Marine Concepts. Monster Cam. STANLEY Smallcraft, AC Marine and composites. Alex Ward AKA Mini. Thames Rockets. Councillor Zoe Huggins. Councillor Lesley Meenaghan. Gosport Borough Council. The Friends of Hardway. Music Matters. Gillard Marine services. The Luna Foundation. MinervaEurope. Gosport Road Runners and the Gosport Half Marathon fund. Mary Montagu-Scott. Jonathan Cheshire and Sail Training International. Malcolm Hicks and Family. Bunker. Jon Carver. Chris Best and the Mound close. ASDA. Councillor Martin Pepper. Pitt street indoor skatepark project. Military Mentors. Moreland Motors. The Marine Advertising agency. RS Sailing. Our esteemed Members, and all our fab volunteers who have helped us so much so far...



## TEAM PROFILE: Non Executive Director and Fundraising Manager

### Stuart McClellan

**aka Stuey Mac**

Stuart has once again joined us on our journey to help support the students, families and communities in which we work. Having previously worked alongside him for many years, we could not ask for a better person in this role. He is a highly knowledgeable and experienced fundraiser with a unique and innovative approach backed up by his tireless and thorough research. Stu totally shares our passion for Plan B, and will be designing our strategy in line with Plan B's vision to do even more for the young people of Gosport, Portsmouth, Havant, Southampton and beyond.



## STUDENTS PROFILE:

### Finlay T

#### A guitar rock legend in the making

Finlay is passionate about vocational education and where he finds a passion, understands it takes hard work and dedication to achieve the high standards he is striving for.





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## Get in Touch



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