

Rutherford School

Where every ability shines



A PMLD provision for young people up to age 25

New students welcome

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Welcome

Rutherford School is an Independent Special School which supports young people up to the age of 25.

We are part of the Garwood Foundation who have worked with Disabled people in Croydon and neighbouring boroughs for over 70 years.

Every young person who joins Rutherford brings something special and vibrant and our provision is designed around each individual.

This prospectus goes some way in highlighting the unique and warm atmosphere that we aim to create. If you would like to find out more or see for yourself then we encourage you to come and visit.

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"It's just not a school where you are just one of the numbers, every child is treated individually, personally."

Rutherford parent



"A started at the Life Skills Centre in Rutherford School in September 2019. He is thoroughly enjoying his time there engaging in a variety of activities and therapies which include art, cooking, music and Rebound. A has especially enjoyed Aqua therapy. Attending the Life Skills Centre has enabled A to be more active in the community with trips to local shops and restaurants."

Rutherford parent

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What we offer

Our curriculum aims to enable our learners to develop greater autonomy and engagement with the world around them as they prepare for the next stage in their lives. At Rutherford, students follow a personalised curriculum designed around each young persons goals, strengths and needs. What is important to you is important to us.

Our Students access programmes of study across five holistic, person centred areas. These are; My World, My Wellbeing, My Voice, My Body and My Independence. These areas expand upon the Preparation for Adulthood themes in ways which are meaningful for our young people.

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Some of the programmes of study and activities on offer include:

Sound by Sound
Book Club
Ready Steady Cook
Tac Pac
Basketball
ASDAN Life Skills Challenges
Special Yoga
Gardening
Art
Enterprise sessions
Celebrations

Assistive Technology
MOVE
RSHE
Special themed weeks
Music
Massage
Community Outings
Dance

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Delivering meaningful outcomes

Our approach to learning is flexible, multisensory, creative and person-centred. Students follow a core programme of sessions designed across the breadth of our curriculum areas and then choose from a range of exciting enrichment options to form their own bespoke timetables.

My Body

With reference to best practice guidelines in ensuring 24hr postural care and an aim to support our young people to engage in physical activity each young person has a program of support designed by physiotherapists and experienced practitioners to meet their physical needs. Alongside this there are opportunities to engage in sports throughout the week and to work towards meaningful functional goals e.g. building core strength for sitting in order to sit at a table in a restaurant or to build skills in independent rolling in order for a young person to have greater opportunities for movement.



My Voice

With a focus on student choice, our young people have opportunities to develop their approaches to communication to make meaningful decisions about how they spend their time and who they spend their time with.

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My Independence

We focus on student choice and independent living. Each student will have a bespoke timetable which incorporates the core elements of their holistic support package and ASDAN Life Skills Challenges. We also provide personalised pathways through the use of Assistive Technology.

My Wellbeing

We support the emotional and physical wellbeing for our young people through the use of evidence based strategies and informed by neuroscience. We use strategies which incorporate the senses, nature, creativity, mindfulness, music, touch and building relationships to design a personalised wellbeing programme for each student.



My World

We provide opportunities to engage meaningfully with the world. Young people engage in fun community and cultural celebrations, take part in our popular book club and Sound by Sound sessions and spend time exploring and developing their interests and hobbies.

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Therapies and nursing care

At Rutherford we have a trans-disciplinary team who work together to ensure that students' needs are met. Our team of specialised professionals design programmes with practical outcomes to foster independence, learning and achievement for each pupil by meeting individual needs and building on strengths and abilities. Students have bespoke packages of support designed around their goals and aspirations, EHCPs and co-production between our team, the young person and their family.

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We want our students to enjoy being at school; to learn, achieve, and be happy!

Our specialties include:

On site nursing team

Physiotherapy

Occupational Therapy

Rebound Therapy

Hydrotherapy

Music Therapy

Interactive learning area

Speech and Language Therapy

Visual impairment specialist support

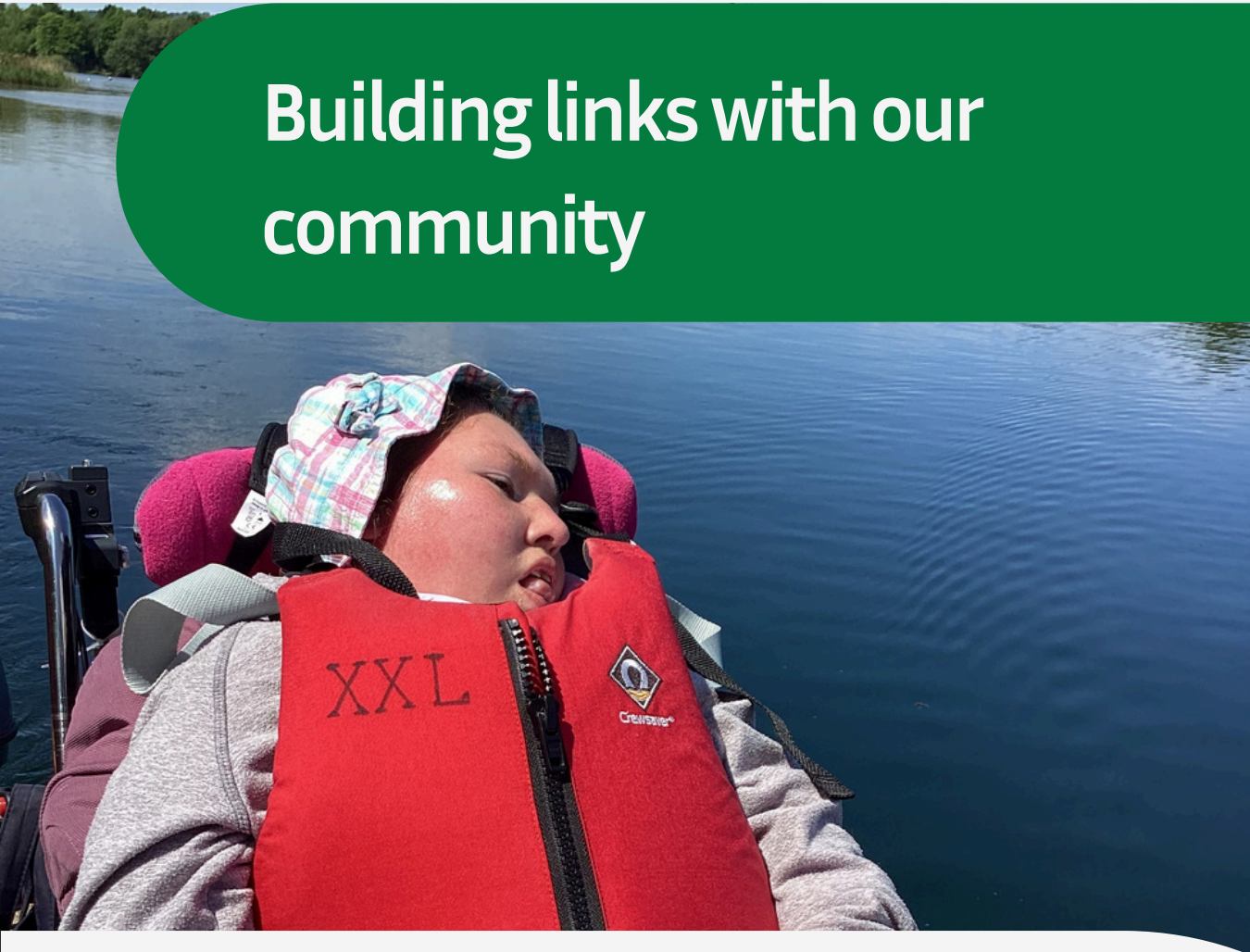
Eye gaze technology

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Building links with our community



Young people at Rutherford are active members of the community. Each term, students focus on getting to know and building relationships in a key location within the local community. This could be the library, a coffee shop or even the arcade. Students familiarise themselves with the journey, the environment, other regular users and staff. Our young people make meaningful contributions to society. As part of our broad and balanced offer we offer the opportunity to take part in Life Skills Challenges; students also engage in learning in the local community whether that be when learning about logos for an Enterprise Challenge or learning about a garden centre as part of an Environment Challenge.

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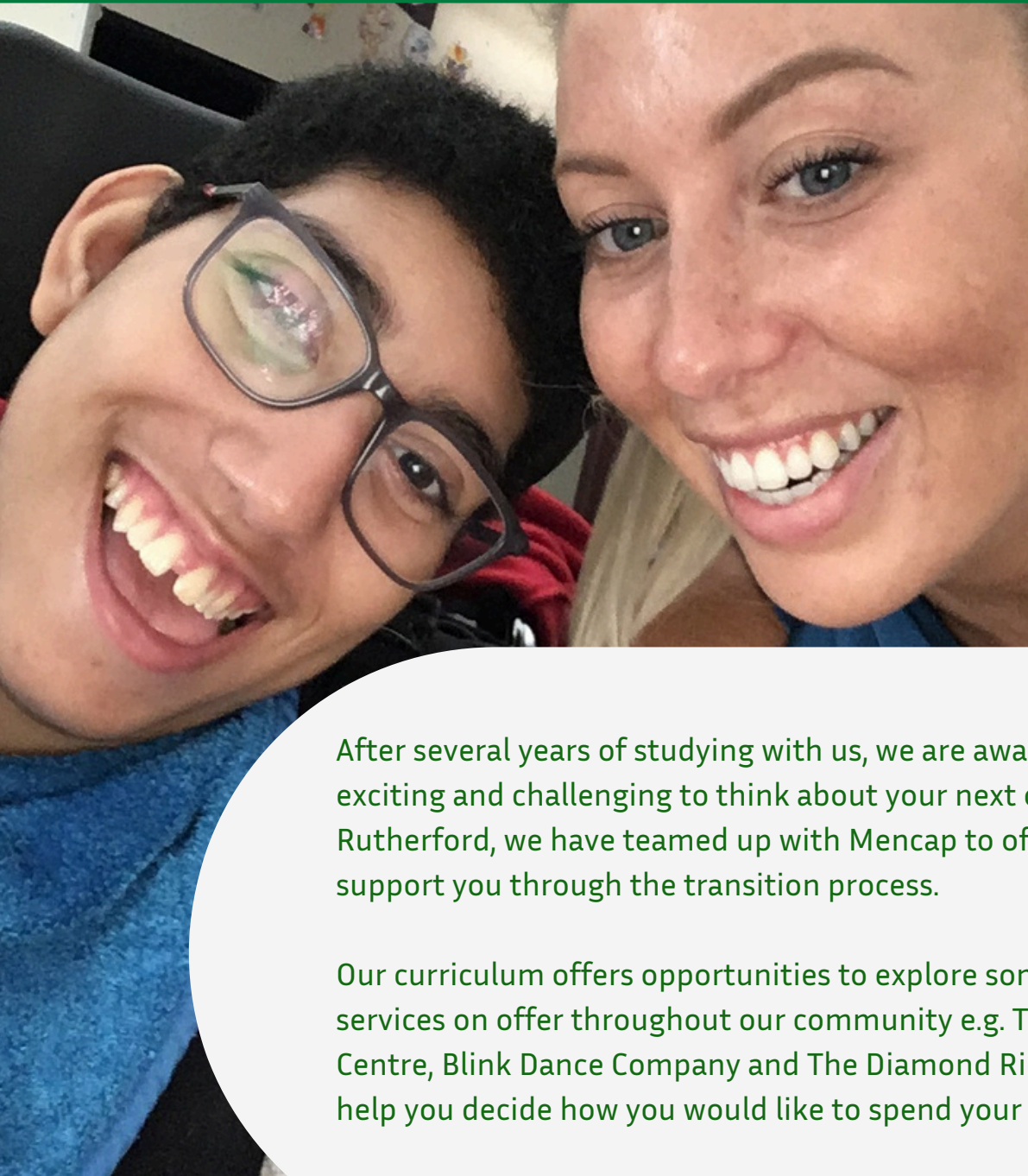
Our careers offer enables each student to access a placement, designed around their individual needs and interests that allows them to experience being in a workplace and build links with people in their communities. Experiences offered to date have included; on site opportunities in catering and gardening, local beauticians, a local pub, local community foodbanks, and boating on Chipstead Lakes.

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Supporting your onward journey



After several years of studying with us, we are aware that it can be exciting and challenging to think about your next options. At Rutherford, we have teamed up with Mencap to offer workshops to support you through the transition process.

Our curriculum offers opportunities to explore some of the different services on offer throughout our community e.g. The Bramley Hill Day Centre, Blink Dance Company and The Diamond Riding Centre. To help you decide how you would like to spend your time in the future.

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We work closely with services in the community to support you with transition.

Come and visit us!

Rutherford School

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