# **SEN Signpost**

Welcome to the Spring edition of Bexley's newsletter for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

This is a platform for children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) to share your voice.

### This newsletter is your opportunity to:

- Ask any questions you may have about your SEN related issues
- Learn more about who can support you if you need help
- ✓ Find out what is happening in Bexley for children and young people with special educational needs
- ✓ Let us know your thoughts about SEN services in Bexley
- ✓ Get involved with shaping SEN Services

Thank you to the children and young people who chose the new name for this newsletter and helped shaped the design and content!

## Get involved in creating your newsletter, your way!

Telephone: 0203 045 5677 Email: localoffer@bexley.gov.uk Website: <u>www.bexleylocaloffer.uk</u>

#### Edition 2 – Spring 2022



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#### Clubs & Sports in Bexley



There is so much to do!

Here are some clubs, groups and activities happening soon:

- Jesses Place Active Play
- Bexley Beavers Swimming
- Spectrum Autism Discussion Group for young adults
- Danson SEN Youth Club
- Teviot Frame Football

Find out more on the Bexley Local Offer 'Events Calendar':

www.bexleylocaloffer/events.uk

#### You are an inspiration!

Hello, my name is Aishah Hassan, I'm autistic! You know what? I'm proud to say that.

#### You want to know why?

Through my life, I've been supported, so dearly in fact, I lost that independence feeling. I felt like I needed to have someone to support me doing something new; I never felt like I was mature enough to carry things out myself.

That's why I went out, by myself, to look for a job – so I can prove myself independent. It was a long and hard battle, being denied and pushed away because of my autism – I started to think autism was a bad thing. That was until I met one lovely, caring, and supportive lady working in the Local Offer Service for Bexley Local Authority.

She taught me being autistic gives us a wild mind! We're so creative and we're not afraid to think outside the box. It's not a label saying we cannot do things by ourselves, we can!



I passed the interview with flying colours; my autism was seen as a positive as I could bring my creative skills and lived experience into my new role as a 'Young Person Engagement Officer'.

Being normal is boring, weird is more fun!

That way, we can all be unique.

Would you like to share your story?

We would love to hear from you, send us your inspiration story today!

#### Q & A - Dyslexia Support

### How can I get help at school with my Dyslexia?

You can tell your teacher or teaching assistant about the help that you need. This may be extra help with reading, using coloured paper or overlays or having extra time to finish your work. This is known as special educational needs (SEN) Support.

Your teacher will talk to your school Senco, who is the person responsible for arranging SEN support in your education.

You can read more about <u>SEN Support</u> on the Bexley Local Offer.

You can tell your parent or carer about the Bexley Dyslexia Association. They can provide lots of information about supporting children who have Dyslexia.

Website: www.dyslexiawise.co.uk

If you would like to have your question featured in our newsletter, please get in touch!

#### **Bexley IASS - Youth Forum**

Bexley Information, Advice and Support Service (IASS) have an exciting opportunity for you to help develop their service for children and young people!

IASS are working closely with young people who have Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities from across the borough to build a youth forum.

This will be a co-production project in which young people will transfer their lived experience towards adapting, changing and informing the way IASS is delivered to young people.

Find out more and register your interest: <u>www.bexleyiass.co.uk</u>