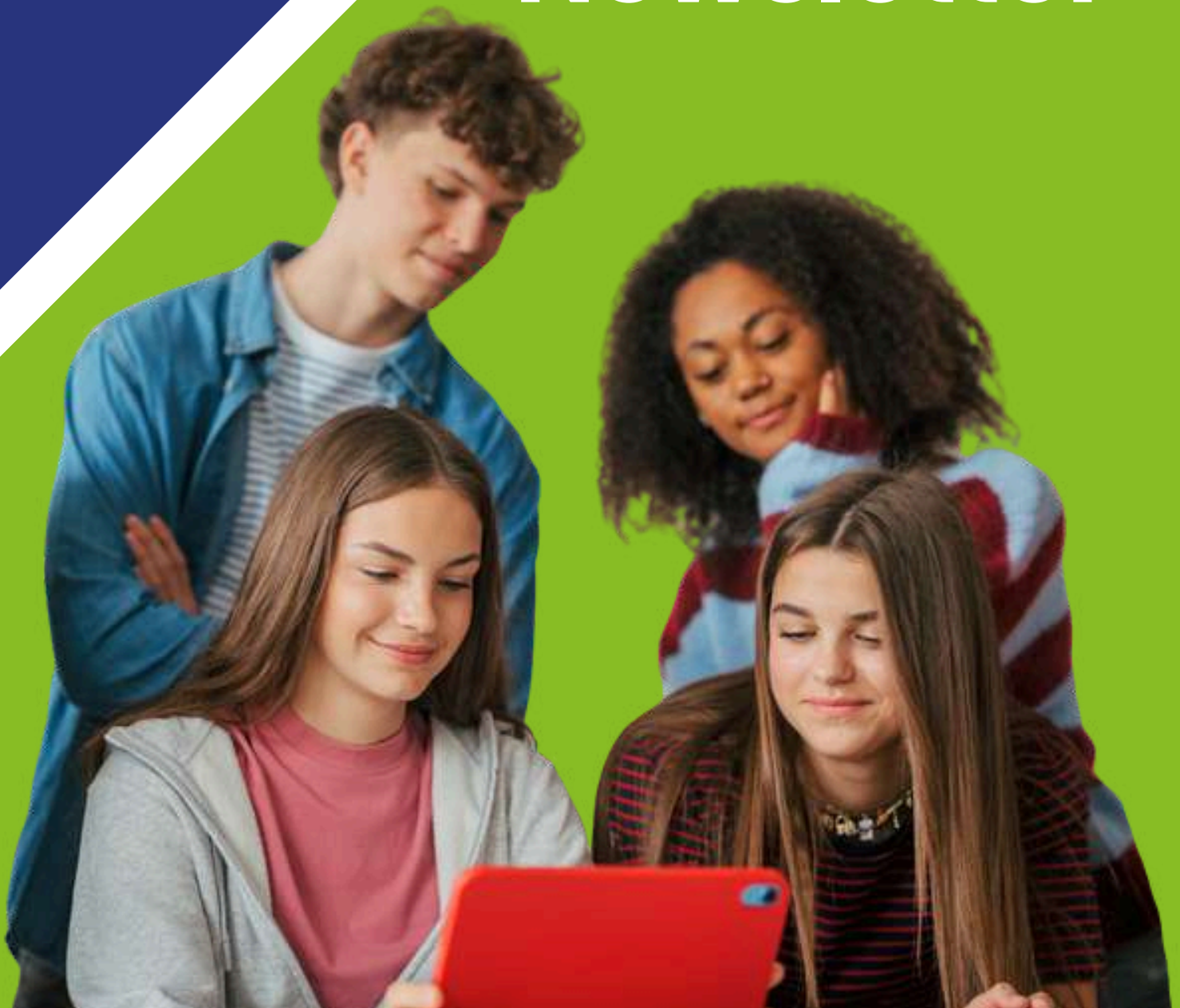


HyFlex Academy
by *Greenhouse*

Spring Term Newsletter



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A WORD FROM OUR

Director of Education

Tara Jones

Last week, I had the privilege of organising and hosting our event, Working Together for Better Futures: Education and Care in Partnership, at Storyhouse. It was a powerful opportunity to bring colleagues together to reflect on how education and care, working in true partnership, can transform outcomes for young people.

The focus of the event was clear: when education and care align with shared purpose and understanding, we create the conditions for young people not only to re-engage with learning but to thrive as they move towards their next steps.



Throughout the day, we explored the vital role of education as a protective factor for young people in care. We considered the barriers that can affect attendance, engagement and achievement, and discussed practical strategies to motivate, reassure and advocate for the young people we serve. Importantly, we reflected on how we can create clear, personalised pathways back into education and onwards towards aspirational futures. However, the stand-out moment for me was hearing one of our own students speak so courageously about her experience within our provision. She articulated, with honesty and clarity, why education matters so deeply to young people in care; not just as a route to qualifications, but as a source of stability, belonging and hope. Her words were a powerful reminder of why this work matters and why partnership must remain at the heart of what we do.

Our continued collaboration demonstrates the impact of building positive learning cultures for young people, alongside sustainable and supportive working practices for staff.

Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed so thoughtfully to the discussion. Together, we are making a difference.



Careers Visit to Storyhouse, Chester

Our young people recently enjoyed an exciting and inspiring visit to Storyhouse in Chester — a vibrant cultural hub that brings together a theatre, independent cinema, award-winning library, restaurant, bar and creative social space all under one roof.

During the visit, students took part in a behind-the-scenes tour, exploring the main theatre, studio performance spaces, boutique cinema, city library, and the lively restaurant and bar areas. The experience gave them a unique insight into how such a dynamic venue operates on a day-to-day basis

Students learned about the many roles involved in running Storyhouse successfully,

from front-of-house and technical production to programming, hospitality and customer service.

Throughout the visit, students were encouraged to reflect on their own strengths and consider how skills such as communication, teamwork, creativity, problem-solving and customer care are applied in real workplace settings. It was fantastic to see them making meaningful connections between their learning in school and the wider world of work. Students discovered career opportunities beyond the more obvious roles, exploring alternative pathways.

A memorable and motivating experience for all involved!



Transition and Intervention Practitioner, Jaspal



Jaspal Singh

Transition and Intervention Practitioner

We have welcomed Jaspal to the team as The Greenhouse as the Transition and Intervention Practitioner.

Jazz's role brings together mental health knowledge and educational practice to ensure each young person can access learning, succeed at school, and build on their overall wellbeing. Jazz works closely alongside support workers to help young people thrive both emotionally and academically.

What Jazz Does

Education-based strategies

Jazz advises learners and educators on differentiation, behaviour support approaches, sensory and environmental adaptations, and in-class scaffolding to help students remain engaged and successful in learning.

Advocacy and systems change

Jazz champions inclusive policies and practices that reduce barriers to education, including attendance plans, reasonable adjustments, anti-stigma initiatives, and inclusive curriculum approaches.

Monitoring and outcomes

Jazz tracks progress to ensure strategies are effective, reviewing both wellbeing and educational outcomes to support continuous improvement.



How This Supports Engagement, Education and Advocacy



Improves access by removing psychological and environmental barriers so young people can attend and participate fully.



Increases engagement by building skills such as emotional regulation and problem-solving, making learning more manageable and rewarding.



Boosts attainment as stabilising mental health and adapting instruction improves concentration, persistence and achievement.



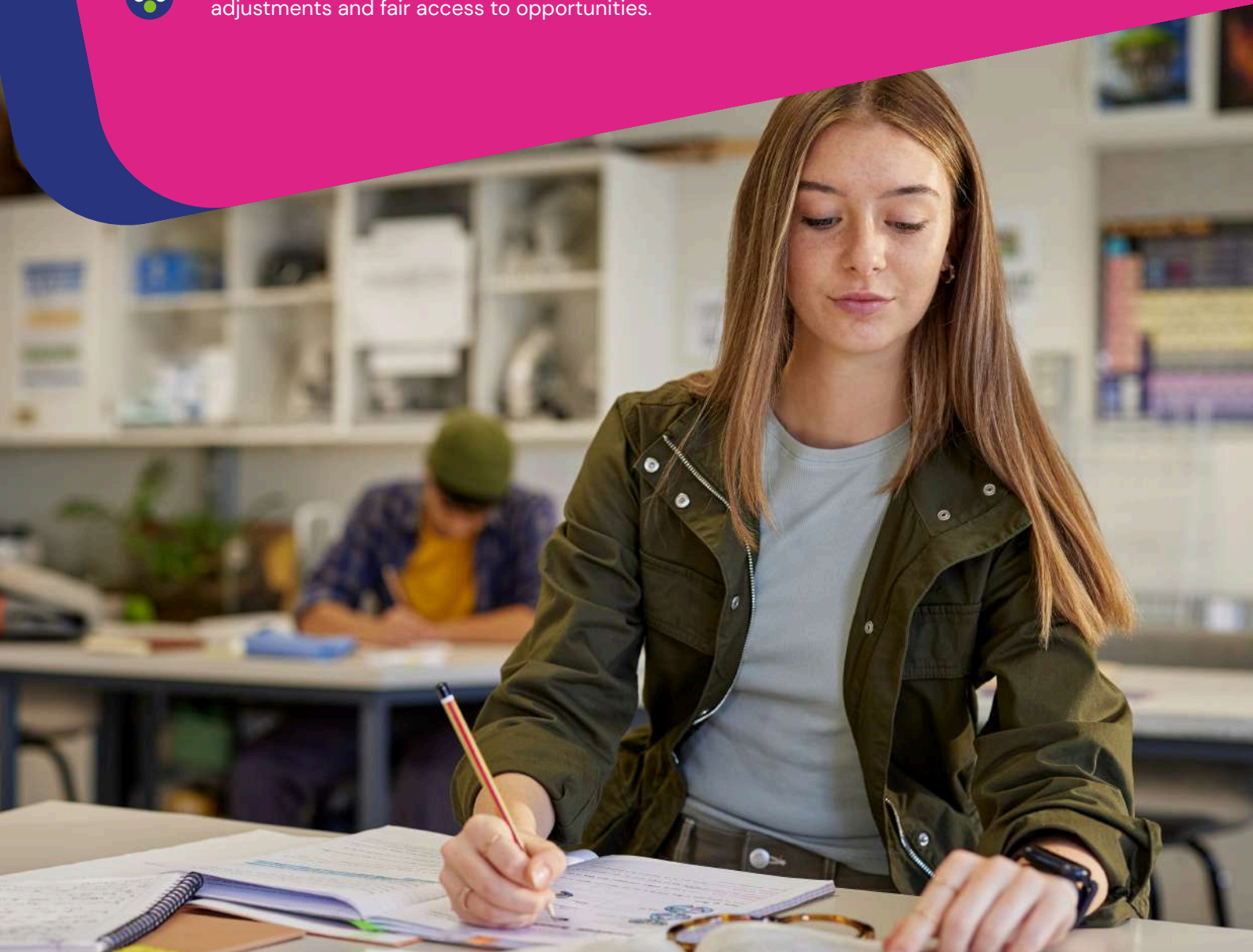
Strengthens relationships through improved communication between young people, support staff, and schools — increasing motivation and consistency.



Prevents escalation by providing early, education-based support, reducing the need for specialist referrals and long-term absences.



Promotes equity by ensuring young people with mental health needs receive reasonable adjustments and fair access to opportunities.



Interest Based Learning lead by Student Voice

Working alongside Horses

At The Greenhouse, we believe that learning is most powerful when it connects to a young person's interests. Interest-based learning plays an important role in our curriculum because it helps students feel motivated, valued and capable. When learning feels relevant and meaningful, engagement increases, confidence grows and young people begin to see themselves as successful learners.

For some students, traditional classroom approaches do not always unlock their potential. By offering learning experiences built around real interests and practical opportunities, we create alternative pathways for success. These experiences develop not only academic skills, but also essential life skills such as resilience, teamwork, communication and problem-solving.

In response to requests from our Young People, we delighted to announce the addition of learning with horses next half term.

Working alongside horses provides a unique and highly engaging learning environment. Horses respond to body language, emotion and consistency, helping young people develop self-awareness, emotional regulation, responsibility and trust.

The programme supports students to:

- Build resilience through new challenges
- Develop confidence and independence
- Improve communication and teamwork skills
- Strengthen focus, patience and emotional control
- Re-engage positively with learning

This hands-on, experiential approach allows students to achieve success in a different setting, often transforming how they see themselves and their potential.

We are excited about the opportunities this programme will bring and look forward to seeing our young people grow in confidence, ambition and self-belief.





Chester City Easter Egg Hunt

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To celebrate the end of term, all young people are invited to take part in a special Chester City Centre Easter Egg Hunt!

Armed with teamwork and sharp eyes, participants will explore the historic streets of Chester searching for hidden QR codes and cracking clues along the way. With 5 clues to uncover and plenty of fun to be had, it's the perfect way to round off the term together.




A brilliant adventure waiting for every student, don't miss out!





We're hiring!

SEN/SEMH Functional Skills & Digital Skills Tutor

-  Chester and Cheshire
-  Start date: January to April 2026
-  £35 per hour

We're looking for a passionate tutor to support young people aged 11 to 19 at HyFlex Academy, helping them reconnect with learning through personalised and creative teaching.

The role includes:

- Planning and delivering engaging lessons
- Working 1:1 and with small groups
- Adapting sessions to meet a wide range of needs using creative approaches

About you:

You'll be a qualified teacher or equivalent with experience supporting learners with SEMH needs. Experience in alternative education is ideal, along with confidence in tailoring learning, building trust, and working in a flexible, trauma-informed way.

What's in it for you:

- A supportive and values-led environment
- The chance to make a real difference
- Clear development and progression opportunities

