

Summer Term Newsletter



A word from our

Headteacher, Greenhouse HyFlex Academy



Fiona Conde

As I reflect on my first year as Head of The Greenhouse, I feel incredibly proud of everything our young people and staff have achieved together. It has been a year of growth, opportunity and transformation, and it has been a privilege to witness the progress made by so many of our learners.

Throughout the year, attendance and engagement have improved significantly. Many of our young people arrived having experienced disrupted education or long periods out of school. Through patience, consistency and a personalised approach, we have rebuilt positive relationships with education and created an environment where students feel safe, valued and ready to learn.

Our bespoke timetables have played a vital role in this success, tailoring programmes to individual needs, interests and aspirations so students can engage at a pace that works for them.



Education at The Greenhouse combines academic learning with practical experiences that prepare young people for their futures. Students have worked towards qualifications including Functional Skills in English and Mathematics, developing essential skills that support further education, employment and everyday life.

Our curriculum has continued to grow, with Richard's outdoor learning programme, The Greenhouse Rangers, giving students valuable experiences in nature, teamwork and environmental awareness. Students have also engaged in ASDAN courses, including Uniformed Services, as well as music tuition with Elliot.

Movement and wellbeing activities led by Shaun, including football, kurling, badminton and rounders on the beach, have developed teamwork, confidence and friendships.

One of our greatest achievements has been seeing young people who had previously disengaged from education begin to attend regularly and participate meaningfully in learning. I am especially proud of those students now moving on to college placements and the next stage of their journey.

I would like to thank our staff, support staff, families and wider community for their continued commitment throughout my first year as Head. I remain inspired by our students and excited about what the future holds for The Greenhouse.

Sport, Movement and Wellbeing at The Greenhouse



This term, our Sport, Movement and Wellbeing programme has gone from strength to strength, providing opportunities for students to improve their wellbeing, build confidence and, importantly, enjoy being active together.

A key focus has been encouraging engagement and attendance, while creating opportunities for students to participate in group activities they may not otherwise have felt comfortable joining. Through a range of enjoyable and accessible experiences, students have been able to develop new skills, build relationships and engage in physical activity in a way that often feels more like fun than exercise.

Over the term, students have taken part in a wide variety of activities including football, badminton, tennis, pickleball, indoor curling, rounders on Talacre Beach, trips to the driving range, and adaptive cycling sessions at Alyn Waters Country Park. Each activity has offered different opportunities for students to challenge themselves, discover new interests and celebrate personal achievements.

There have been some particularly memorable successes along the way. Several students have discovered new talents and interests, demonstrating impressive skills, determination and enthusiasm when trying activities for the first time. It has been wonderful to see learners growing in confidence, embracing new challenges and taking pride in their achievements, whether on the badminton court, at the driving range or during team-based activities.

One of the highlights of the term has been seeing students take the initiative to participate in opportunities beyond their regular sessions. When a ten-pin bowling competition against other schools was announced, a number of students

independently expressed their interest in taking part, demonstrating increased confidence, engagement and a willingness to represent The Greenhouse in a wider community setting.

Pickleball also proved to be a huge success, quickly becoming a favourite activity. Students and staff alike embraced the competitive spirit, enjoying some fiercely contested matches that kept everyone engaged and active for hours.

These sessions continue to demonstrate the positive impact that sport, movement and wellbeing can have on confidence, social interaction and overall engagement. Beyond developing physical skills, they provide valuable opportunities for teamwork, resilience, communication and enjoyment.

We look forward to building on this success and introducing even more opportunities for students to stay active, challenge themselves and, most importantly, enjoy being part of the Greenhouse community.

Introducing the Greenhouse Rangers



This term has also marked the exciting launch of the Greenhouse Rangers, a new outdoor learning programme designed to develop confidence, independence and practical life skills through adventure and exploration.

Over the course of the academic year, learners will take part in 36 sessions, working towards Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. The programme will provide opportunities to develop a wide range of outdoor skills, including walking, navigation, shelter building and conservation projects, all while working towards four key strengths: Leadership, Navigation, Conservation and Resilience.

The Greenhouse Rangers offers a valuable opportunity for our young people to work collaboratively within a larger peer group, building relationships, communication skills and confidence in a supportive environment. Outdoor learning provides a unique setting in which learners can challenge themselves, solve problems, take responsibility and experience success in new and meaningful ways.

The enthusiasm shown during the first session was wonderful to see, with learners demonstrating genuine curiosity and a keen interest in the activities ahead. There is already a growing sense of anticipation for the next session, which will include a gentle hike and further opportunities to develop their outdoor skills.

We are delighted to see this new initiative underway and look forward to following the Rangers' journey throughout the year as they embrace new challenges, develop resilience and achieve their Bronze, Silver and Gold awards.



Creating Space for Meaningful Moments

The ancient Greeks had two words for time:

Chronos — quantitative time. Measured, linear and scheduled. The ticking clock. The timetable. The lesson period. The school calendar.

Kairos — qualitative time. The right moment. A breakthrough. A deep experience. A moment so meaningful that time seems to stand still.

Most schools are governed by Chronos. Bells ring. Lessons start and end. Curricula must be covered. Assessments have deadlines. And yet, some of the most important learning happens in Kairos.

It is the moment a learner finally connects the dots after weeks of uncertainty. The conversation that takes an unexpected turn and sparks genuine curiosity. The question that was never on the lesson plan but opens an entirely new way of thinking.

It is the project that captures a young person's imagination so completely that they lose track of time. The first successful transition back into learning after a period of absence. The moment a learner finds their voice, takes a risk, joins a group activity, or begins to believe in themselves again.

At The Greenhouse, we see these moments every day.

Whether it is through therapeutic education, outdoor learning, sport and wellbeing activities, or simply through the trusted relationships our staff build with young people, we understand that meaningful progress rarely follows a straight line. Growth happens when learners feel safe, understood and ready to engage.

This is why our approach has always been about more than delivering lessons. It is about creating the conditions in which learning can flourish. We recognise that every learner's journey is different and that genuine progress often begins with connection, confidence and belonging.

Our challenge is not simply to manage Chronos more efficiently, but to create space for Kairos to emerge. Time in education is precious. At The Greenhouse, our responsibility is not only to fill it, but to make it meaningful.





Greenhouse

Sports, Carnival & Community Fun Day



An afternoon of sport, carnival games and community spirit is coming to The Greenhouse.

- A mix of sports and classic carnival games
- Fun for all ages, friends and family welcome
- Rowley's Drive, Shotton

Come along, take part, cheer others on and enjoy the day. Details to follow soon.





We're hiring!

KS3/4 SEMH High Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA)

- 📍 **Chester and Cheshire**
- 🕒 **Full-time**
- £ **£25,000 – £29,000 per annum**

We're looking for a dedicated HLTA to support young people aged 11 to 16 at The Greenhouse HyFlex Academy, helping them reconnect with learning through trauma-informed, personalised support.

The role includes:

- Supporting students 1:1 and in small groups
- Assisting with planning and delivering engaging lessons
- Using trauma-informed strategies to support behaviour and emotional wellbeing

About you:

You'll hold an HLTA qualification (or equivalent) with experience supporting learners with SEMH needs. Experience in alternative education is ideal, along with confidence in building trust, managing behaviour, 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

