

Family Outreach Newsletter

Pens Meadow and Halesbury Schools Working Together to Support Families



In School News

Welcome!

Family Outreach would like to welcome our new families to Halesbury and welcome back all of our returning ones!

We hope you all had an enjoyable summer and the children are beginning to settle back in to the school routine.

As ever we have a busy year ahead planned in

school and as the Family Outreach Team. We

will be continuing to offer support to families,running our weekly Family & Adult Learning

sessions as well as much more along the way.

Overleaf you will find our Family Outreach
information sheet explaining our role in school.

Both new and returning families can contact

Family Outreach directly or through your

child's class teacher at any time if you would

- like support, information or guidance or
- further information about what we do.

Summer Scheme 2015

This year Family Outreach coordinated our second annual Summer Scheme. We had twenty two children attend throughout the scheme which ran for five days during the holidays.

The scheme aims to offer a fun, safe environment for the children to play and engage in various activities whilst also offering parents and carers a short break.

During the scheme we provided a range of fun activities such as sensory play, swimming, pizza making, t-shirt decorating and water play.

The scheme was a great success and Family Outreach would like to thank families for their continued support and the staff who worked for the week and made it possible for the scheme to run for another year.



September Diary Dates

Tuesday 15th September 9.30-11.30– Triple P

Tuesday 22nd September 9.30-11.30– Triple P

Tuesday 29th September 9.30-11.30– Triple P

Tuesday 6th October 9.30-11.30– Laughing Yoga

We would like to welcome all parents to join us for our Family/Adult Learning sessions on a Tuesday morning, to book your place please contact Jo or Michelle.

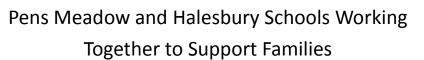
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Halesbury School

This year Halesbury and Family Outreach are hoping to re-establish the 'Friends of Halesbury' partnership group. Aims
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• The aim of the partnership group is to support celebrate the successes of Hales- bury School and its pupils and to promote the school within the local and wider community.
• The partnership will support the school to raise funds for projects that are of direct benefit to its pupils and their families.
• The partnership will provide the opportunity to share skills and experiences with in school supporting us to achieve the best outcomes for Halesbury pupils and their families.
Key Responsibilities
 To work in partnership across school to identify needs and how those needs will be met.
 Work with other relevant community groups/business/local initiatives to explore opportunities in order to improve outcomes Halesbury Pupils and their families.
 To identify potential funding sources that will support school projects.
 Ensure that the voice of children, young people and their families is listened to and taken into account in the development of school projects.
Examples of work 'Friends of Halesbury' will support with: organisation of events, decisions about how money raised may be spent, for example, trips or projects, sharing individuals skills with the school, share views of families and children with school.
Members
Family Outreach Coordinator
 Parent/Carers/Grandparents/Siblings of pupils at Halesbury School
Local Community members
Local Businesses
The group will meet twice monthly and a chair and vice chair will be elected who will
take responsibility for reporting to the Halesbury Board of governors on a regular
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Family Outreach





Who we are

Family Outreach is a role jointly funded by Pens Meadow and Halesbury Special Schools, we are a small team of two, Michelle Cox-Coley (Family Outreach Coordinator) and Jo Hall (Family Support Worker). Our time is shared between the two schools and we aim to provide support for families in their role as a parent/carer. **Our Role** There is many different aspects to our role and support we can offer to families such as: Completion of benefits forms and the appeals process Attendance and/or chairing of meeting such as CAF, Team around the Child/Family Support with the transition to Education, Health and Care Plans Advocacy Support—Advocating on behalf of families to other agencies/professions Sign Posting to extended services, for example, clubs and activities

- Referrals to support services, such as, Children's Disability Team, Sleep Programmes, Parenting Programmes
- Support to attend meetings
- Home visits to provide advice, guidance and a link between home and school and initial home visits offered to all new families
- Coordination of fundraising events
- Producing a monthly newsletter and regularly updating Family Outreach social media pages and websites to share information with families.
- Co-ordination of a Summer Scheme at both schools
- Coordination of weekly Family and Adult Learning sessions
- Transition planning—accessing an out of school activity or transition to post 19 provision
- Direct Payment Support (PA adverts/processes/referral for assessment)
- Coordination of workshops to assist parents in supporting their child's learning, for example, phonics, writing
- This list is not definitive please have a look at our website and newsletter to find out more about what we do.

How to Contact us

Halesbury School

- All families are welcome to contact us to request support or information, you do not need to be referred to our service.
- Telephone: 01384 81 8630/8945
- Email: cox-coleym@halesbury.dudley.sch.uk
 - Website: www.halesbury.dudley.sch.uk/familyoutreach
- Facebook: Halesbury-Pensmeadow Family-Outreach
- JHall16@pens-meadow.dudley.sch.uk

Twitter: @PensHalesFOR

www.pens-meadow.dudley.sch.uk/familyoutreach.asp

September 2015