

Dear all,

Welcome to the 1st ACE newsletter! We have so much information to share that we thought this was the best way to communicate with you. We hope you can take a few minutes to read this newsletter, which we plan to send out annually.

## What Is ACE?

- ACE stands for Action, Change, Equality which is the name chosen by original members.
- It helps ensure the voice of children & young people (C&YP) with SEND is heard in an accessible way.
- It helps Royal Borough of Greenwich (RBG) listen to the C&YP with SEND and make change, improve or shape services that are important to them.

## What Does It Mean For Children & Young People With SEND?

- They get to share their thoughts and views in an accessible way.
- An opportunity to work with their peers with SEND.
- Their views and needs are taken into account.
- An opportunity to do something worthwhile whilst having fun!

## Thank You:

To all our existing ACE groups, the staff that run them and the C&YP with SEND who take part in regular consultations. Having their views on topics that are important to them is so worthwhile and is making a difference.

## Welcome:

To those who are setting up or have “fledgling” ACE groups. We hope in time both the C&YP with SEND, and yourselves will recognise the value of ACE. If we can support you in anyway to help get your group up and running please do let us know.

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**ACE 10th year Celebration Party!**

**Tuesday 30th September, 10am-12pm**

**The Tramshed, Woolwich**

### **ACE Celebration Event:**

Please come along to our ACE party. It is a chance to celebrate the great views and hard work of the ACE members. Every year we get together for a big celebration party but this year's party is special as we have just completed the 10th year of ACE.

Those of you who have been to past celebrations can vouch that the groups party hard! For those that are new, please come along and have some fun! It does not matter if the C&YP with SEND have not yet taken part in ACE ... just that they are interested in joining.

As the party is in September this year the groups will have some existing members, but also you will be starting to think about new members. Please bring any C&YP with SEND that you think may be interested in giving their views. They can enjoy the party, learn a bit about ACE and then decide if they want to be a member of your school group.

See attachment for party details and please let us know as soon as possible how many of you are coming. As always accompanying staff will be responsible for the C&YP in your care.

### **Feedback From Last Academic Year's Consultations:**

Please see feedback in the Annual Report on last year's consultations, and take some time to feedback to your group members on any that they took part in. Change is often slow but it is important that the C&YP feel they have been listened to and change is either planned or happening.

### **Current Participating Schools (some of which are just starting out):**

Bannockburn, Plumcroft, Windrush, Meridian HI and Willow Dene primaries.

Willow Dene, Woolwich Poly Larp, Thomas Tallis HI, St Thomas More, Charlton Park Academy, Breakthrough, Kings Park secondaries.

Shooters Hill Post 16.

## **Our Easy Read Annual Report and Journeys::**

We are pleased to attach our Easy Read Annual Report and “Journeys”. The Annual Report summarises the wonderful work of ACE members during the last academic year. We use Easy Read for this report to continue to highlight the importance of accessible materials.

Every year we complete 2 Journeys which highlight the process of consultation and the changes made as a consequence. These are used to demonstrate the value of listening to the views of C&YP with SEND.

Both the Annual Report and the Journeys are distributed widely through RBG. We hope you have a few minutes to have a look.

## **Up and Coming Consultations:**

September: 10th Celebration Party

October: Recommissioning of Alternative Provision and Tuition

November: Children’s Homecare Framework

December: Mental Health Single Point of Access

We are aware there were less primary consultations recently and we hope that balance will be redressed. All consultations and timings are subject to change.

# **ATTACHMENTS**

- ACE & Photographic consent forms
- EDI monitoring forms
- Easy Read Annual Report
- Journeys
- Party Invite
- Calendar of upcoming consultations

