

Hill House School



Annual Report for Parents

Hill House School 2022 - 2023

Ofsted – Good in Social Care and Outstanding in Education

Overview of our School Year 2022 - 2023

Our report last year detailed our School Development plans for 2022 – 23 aimed at further developing the breadth and quality of our service and ensuring we continue to drive for a more sustainable approach in all areas of our life at Hill House. They included:

Further develop practitioner / collaborative enquiry - research opportunities to benefit our students experience -

Development of the land - based learning / science curriculum offer with accreditation (John Muir Award):

Establish Eco Cabin as base for One Planet Living activities – Eco work experience

Embed literacy approaches including; Phonics programmes / baseline assessments / target setting / assessment and progress

Building our work - related learning / work experience offer – introduction to the World of work

IT media - audio visual training and development for education staff – smarter recording and reporting

Further develop professional development for education staff e.g. support Teaching Assistant to complete teaching qualification

Development of Learning Journeys to include therapy and care contribution – holistic reporting:

Create further 'In conversation with....' training videos / audio in order to continue to develop staff's knowledge and awareness of key topics

Create a dedicated Supervision Space with an achievable Supervision Plan for all staff to ensure that supervision is scheduled in for all staff on a regular basis and planned into the working day

Deliver 5 x Training Days for Care staff across the year – continued professional development

Ensure continued development of home environments with student ideas and input

Develop 'Let's Eat Together' programme in café – time to socialise

Termly Medication Supervision Meetings for Senior Care Team with Consultant Psychiatrist: MSAG

I am so happy to report that the above aims have all been progressed together with additional initiatives ensuring that we are continuing to strive to continually improve our practice and enhance our service for all of our children and young people at Hill House.

Safeguarding continues to be on every agenda and Louisa Burden, our Designated Safeguarding Lead has continued to keep this topic live and relevant to all. Each week Louisa introduces or refreshes a safeguarding conversation with her team emails as well as providing the Designated team with regular supervision and access to a range of training opportunities.

So far this term, all staff have been enjoying face to face training under the new Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023 Guidance and have valued the opportunity for group learning and discussion around both current and historical topics.

Students have moved into their new classes and are already making progress on a range of Individual Education Plan targets, from individual communication strategies to Duke of Edinburgh work to Harvest Festival celebrations.

As ever, on behalf of the Senior Management Team, I would like to thank you for your continued support and I continue to be grateful for your valued feedback and comments.

Kate Landells
Principal
08 October 2023

I trust you will enjoy a review of the past 12 months starting with our progress in Autumn Term 2022

–

Autumn Term 2022

Termly Targets working towards EHCP Outcomes

Above Expected Progress
Expected Progress
Below Expected Progress

Total Students	Overall Expected & Above Progress	Above Expected	Expected	Below Expected
Cognition and Learning Literacy (25)	100% (25 students)	84% (21 students)	16% (4 students)	
Literacy Phonics and Reading (25)	96% (24 students)	32% (8 students)	64% (16 students)	4% (1 student)
Cognition and Learning Numeracy (25)	96% (24 students)	52% (13 students)	44% (11 students)	4% (1 student)
PSHE/RSE (25)	92% (23 students)	56% (14 students)	36% (9 students)	8% (2 students)
Thematic Learning (Humanities and the Arts) (7)	100% (7 students)	43% (3 students)	57% (4 students)	
Science One Planet Living (8)	100% (8 students)	75% (6 students)	25% (2 students)	
Communication and Interaction (25)	100% (25 students)	60% (15 students)	40% (10 students)	
Social & Emotional (25)	100% (25 students)	60% (15 students)	40% (10 students)	
Physical and Sensory Personal Development (25)	100% (25 students)	68% (17 students)	32% (8 students)	
OCR Life and Living Skills Award (17)	100% (17 students)	53% (9 students)	47% (8 students)	

The beginning of the autumn term saw the school and college facing the exciting challenge of returning to class groups. For the previous 5 terms students had been learning in their home-based groups with a mixture of class and home-based learning led by the education team.

During this time the college age body of students has increased and by autumn 2022, and for the first time, we needed four different College Tutor groups. The lower school for Key Stage 3 and 4 students made up classes one and three.

All students were set learning targets and goals across the curriculum and working towards their EHCP Outcomes and the progress towards these targets was reviewed at the end of the Autumn Term.

What has gone well;

- Students as a whole responded extremely well to their new class groupings and engagement and attendance to class has been outstanding from the outset for all students.
- Progress in the Core curriculum continues to be outstanding with **100%** of students making expected or above expected progress with their Core Literacy target, **96%** making progress with Numeracy and **92%** with PSHE
- New for the autumn term, students were set specific targets relating to Reading and Phonics. There was an enhanced focus on this area this term and all the students had phonics sessions as well as opportunities for one to one reading built into their timetables. It was very pleasing to see that **96%** of the students made expected or above expected progress with their reading and Phonics targets. This has been very encouraging and we will continue to offer these opportunities and set targets in this area of learning going forward into the spring and summer terms.
- In other curriculum developments our Key stage 3 and 4 students began work on our new science curriculum which has been closely aligned to our “One Planet Living” whole school approach. Students enjoyed this new way of thinking about their study of science and **100%** of the students made expected or above expected progress with their targets in this area.
- The thematic approach to studying the Arts and Humanities continues to be very successful and students were fascinated and engaged with their cross-discipline study of the Second World War. This engagement and enjoyment is evidenced by the progress made by the students with all (**100%**) making expected or above expected progress in this area.
- Exciting developments with the 6th form curriculum over the autumn term saw the students in college being able to access Land Science as part of their work towards their OCR Life and Living Skills Award. Alongside this there were increasing opportunities post Covid for students to engage in off-site work-related learning. Students enjoy the curriculum relating to the OCR award and **100%** of them made expected or above expected progress in this area.

Moving forward into the Spring term;

We are excited to be working alongside Southampton FC to develop a whole school PE curriculum which will be trialed in the Spring Term

We will be looking to incorporate further accreditations in the 6th form including the John Muir and the Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

Special Activities and Achievements during the Autumn Term 2022

Arts and Crafts Competition award ceremony in Hertfordshire

The Hill House Sixth form took part in a video presentation highlighting the important One Planet Living message of `Make One Change`

The video won the runners up prize in the CareTech Arts and Crafts competition

The prize was awarded at a special ceremony which Harry attended on behalf of Hill House



Pumpkin festival at Sunnyfields Farm Shop

A very seasonal activity took place during the last week of the Autumn half term... a trip to the local pumpkin festival!

Young people experienced a wonderful variety of pumpkins on display. There were thousands of pumpkins, squashes and other cucurbits to look at and even pop into a wheelbarrow

What an experience, with spooky displays and fields of orange!

Many pumpkins were brought back to school to carve into lanterns ready for those dark nights!



The Lion King!



Two young people from Hill House went on a very special trip to see the Lion King at the Mayflower theatre in Southampton

Experiencing the atmosphere, the well-known music and songs and the incredible costumes was truly magical

It was such an enjoyable and memorable afternoon for all



Anti – Bullying Week at Hill House 2022

This year the theme for Anti – Bullying Week was **REACH OUT** – coming together to reach out to stop bullying

Young people at Hill House explored stories such as `A boy just like me` a heart-warming tale of a friendship between the author and a refugee who share the same interests and childhood hopes and dreams and `Be a Friend` a story of self-acceptance, courage and unbreakable friendship for anyone who has ever felt `different`

During daily tutor time, the focus was on sharing and being kind

Young people had fun working together to design and create their own posters to promote anti – bullying week and to share the important message of always being kind to one another





REACH OUT

Anti-Bullying Week - 14 to 18 November 2022

"Let's come together and **REACH OUT** to stop bullying"

Anti-Bullying Week 'Design a Poster' Competition

Harvest festival celebrations

Young people celebrated Harvest this year by sampling a range of local New Forest produce





Music for Autism

Music provides such a balm for us all and this special event provided the perfect opportunity to come together and enjoy the sounds of the violin and hand drum

We danced to upbeat rhythms and relaxed to the calming tones of Tibetan singing bowls. The musicians played all day and everyone had the opportunity to come and experience this uplifting event

It was lovely to see how each young person responded to the music using ribbons and rhythm sticks and at the end of the day there was a special 'whole school' performance where everyone was able to come together





Outdoor Learning

Hampshire Outdoors have visited every Friday and supported the young people to engage in a whole range of outdoor activities

These have included making wormeries, taking bark rubbings, making bird feeders, planting garlic and constructing hedgehog houses





Black History Month at Hill House



On 3rd of October, we celebrated Black History Month

The young people explored a range of art and literature as well as music and culture in recognition of Black History



Flamenco

Everyone enjoyed the captivating sounds and sights of Flamenco during a special workshop



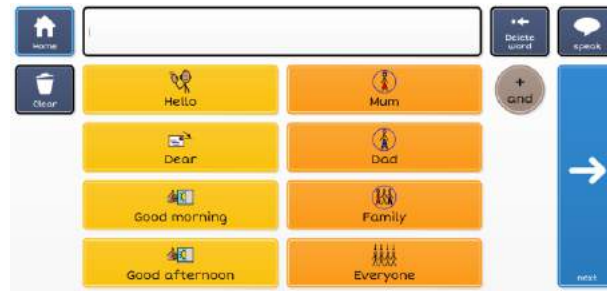
Further development of Talk Pads

“Letter writing” Grid Activity

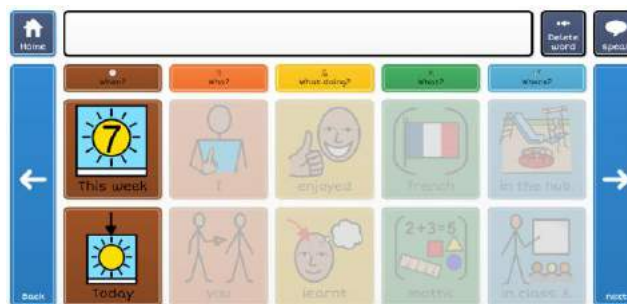
Built as a way of updating our classic letter writing format, young people can now compose a letter using Colourful Semantics and Grid on their Talk Pad to share and celebrate their week’s achievements with their families



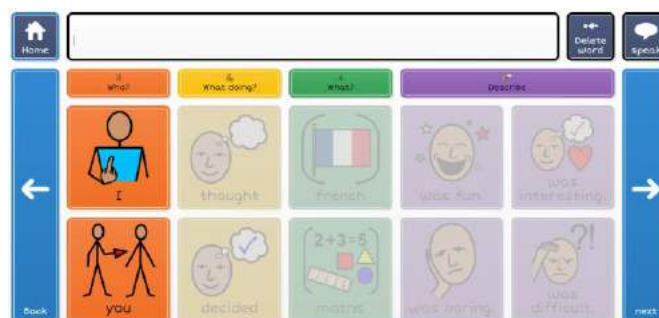
Young people can choose who they are writing a letter to and how they would like to greet them



Young people have the opportunity to describe something they have learnt about/enjoyed during the week. The grid encourages use of colourful semantics



The young person can then reflect on how they found this activity, if they liked or disliked it



The letter writing Grid finishes with the young person signing off, choosing from a choice of goodbye's that they prefer



+ ? = ?
 Hello Mum and Dad How are you? How has

 your week been? This week I watched

 Lion King at the theatre. I thought

 the Lion King was fun. This week I spelt out

 words in class 3. I thought phonics

 was interesting. Bye for now, Love from, Anuj!

?
 Good morning Family How has your

 week been? This week I enjoyed

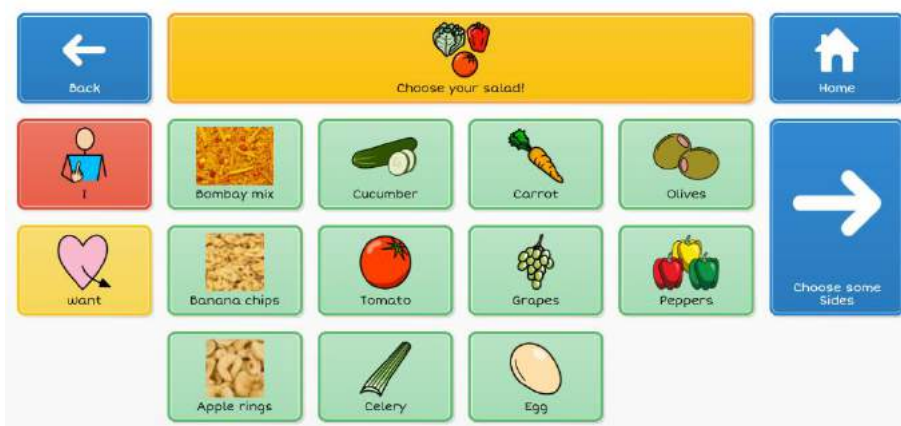
 french in class 3. I thought french

 was interesting. Today I learnt maths

 in class 3. I thought maths was fun.

 Speak soon, Love from, Anuj!

“Let’s Eat” Grid Activity



← Back

Choose your sides!

Home

I

Pasta

Rice

Coleslaw

Couscous

want

Noodles

Potato Salad

Choose your main!

← Back

Choose your main!

Home

I

Hot main

my pasta (AP)

my prepared lunch (VA/AR/CM)

want

Sandwich

baguette

Cheese

Pepperoni

Where shall we eat?

Wrap

Tuna

Ham

Chicken

Sausage

Work Experience Grid Activity

Cleaning Work Experience

House Cleaning Checklist

Cafe Cleaning Checklist

Rest of the School Cleaning Checklist

Classroom Cleaning Checklist

Work experience

Work for the sixth formers at the local village shop where young people have been doing some stock taking and tidying the shelves

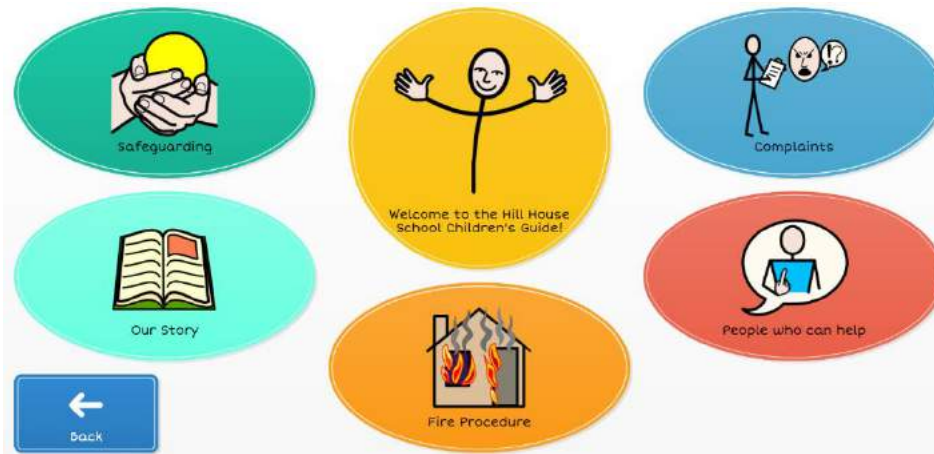


Reflection time

A new end of day reflection time using Talk Pads

Reflection Time





← Back Delete word Today Clear Next

My flat Classroom

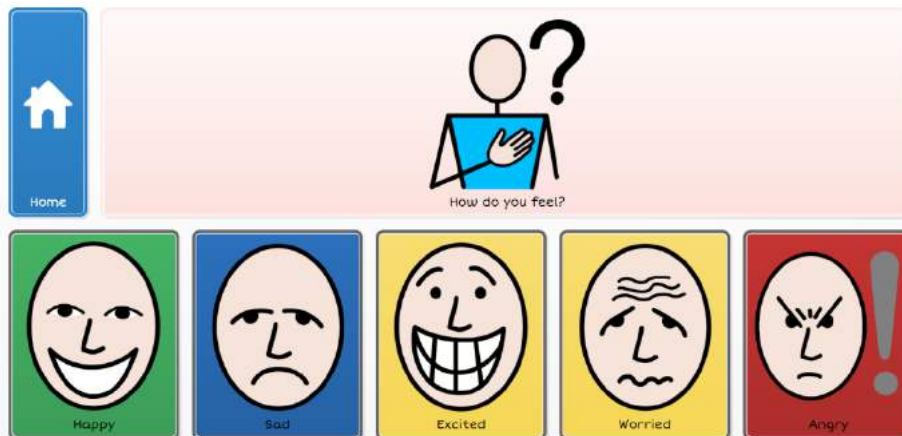
Around the School Out and About

← Back Clear I did... Delete word Next

Assembly English Maths PSHE

PE Thematic Learning Expressive Arts Jobs

I Like I Dislike



Talentino Conference

TALENTINO®

Our sixth form team attended the annual Talentino Conference. Talentino is an organization who supports special schools with careers advice, guidance and development

The conference was a great opportunity for the HHS team to learn about work related learning in other settings and to gather lots of ideas about future projects and initiatives

ACoRNS steering group meeting



This term Hill House hosted the ACoRNS steering group meeting. Hill House are part of the ACoRNS network and it was so nice to be able to invite the group to our school to discuss future projects and development areas

Land Science

It has been an exciting time in the school allotment this term.

Young people have been clearing beds to make room for a new growing schedule



A nature pond has been created on the site of original wetland. It has opened up the space for our young people to be able to see what is living or visiting the area.



Young people have also been moving wood chip to put in the allotment area around the raised beds



They have been clearing and planting



.....and composting on a larger scale



They have been leaf raking and collecting for leaf mould



As well as some conservation work in the woodland area, young people have been helping with the
bramble management and clearing some paths



Meet Ruut...our new Hill House puppy!



Pantomime Season – West Midlands Children’s Theatre

West Midlands
Childrens
Theatre
Touring Ltd.



Hill House started the festive season by enjoying a pantomime performance from the West Midlands Children's Theatre Company

The fairy tale of Sleeping Beauty was brought alive and young people were captivated by the show

We are looking forward to our second pantomime in January!





Christmas Craft Event at Outdoor Learning Centre – New Forest Care

OLC Christmas craft event 14th December 2022

	Spring well	Hill House
10.00-10.15	Welcome and introduction	Welcome and introduction
10.30 - 11.00	Stocking making	Baubles making
11.00 - 11.30	Baubles making	Stocking making
11.30 - 12.00	Hot chocolate and marshmallows/biscuit	Hot chocolate and marshmallows/biscuit
12.00 - 12.30	Gingerbread decorating	Cracker making
12.30 - 13.00	Cracker making	Gingerbread decorating
13.00	Sleigh/tractor ride (weather permitting)	Sleigh/tractor ride (weather permitting)



A group of young people were invited to the Outdoor Learning Centre where New Forest Care hosted an exciting Christmas Craft event

Activities included sticking, bauble and cracker making, decorating gingerbread and a tractor ride

A lovely festive trip out where young people from Hill House met and shared activities with children from other settings



Christmas Market

Sixth form young people worked hard on mini enterprise projects to make a whole array of gifts to sell at a local school's Christmas market

They made decorations, body scrubs and fudge and went along to run their stall

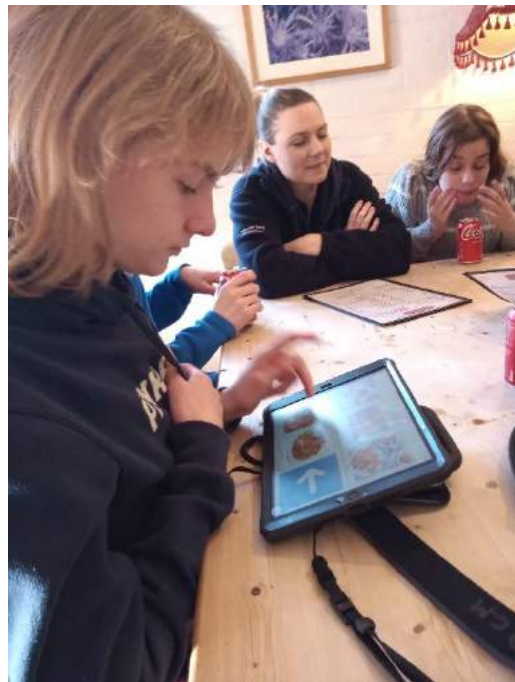


Christmas Trail at Patrick's Patch



Young people enjoyed a festive trail around `Patrick's Place` - an allotment space which is part of a local garden center

Everyone enjoyed lunch in the café, using their Talk Pads to choose what they wanted to eat



Meeting Jilly the Donkey!

Jilly the donkey came to visit us as an end of term treat

It was lovely to meet her and she really enjoyed all the carrots we gave her



End of Autumn Term celebration of achievements



We ended the term by each home celebrating the young people's achievements with carols, mince pies and a special personalized gift

Particular achievements included;

- ❖ Initiating conversations with my friends
 - ❖ Visiting new places
- ❖ Helping others by fixing their toys for them
 - ❖ Using a dictionary and Thesaurus
- ❖ Taking part in work experience at the local village shop
- ❖ Writing about my experiences and gaining confidence in independent thinking
 - ❖ Doing jobs around the school
 - ❖ Participating in group activities
 - ❖ Doing my laundry
 - ❖ Following my new timetable
 - ❖ Taking part in Lego Therapy
 - ❖ Working hard in the allotment
 - ❖ Taking turns with my friends
 - ❖ Using my voice to make choices
 - ❖ Choosing my lunch in the café

Spring Term 2023

Termly Targets working towards EHCP Outcomes

Above Expected Progress
Expected Progress
Below Expected Progress

Total Students in Brackets	Overall Expected & Above Progress	Above Expected	Expected	Below Expected
Cognition and Learning Literacy (25)	96%	44% (11)	52% (13)	4% (1)
Literacy Phonics and Reading (25)	96%	28% (7)	68% (17)	4% (1)
Cognition and Learning Numeracy (25)	88%	36% (9)	52% (13)	12% (3)
PSHE/RSE (25)	100%	36%	64%	

		(9)	(16)	
Thematic Learning (Humanities and the Arts) (8)	100%	88% (7)	12% (1)	
Science One Planet Living (8)	100%	88% (7)	12% (1)	
Communication and Interaction (25)	96%	44% (11)	52% (13)	4% (1)
Social & Emotional (25)	96%	32% (8)	64% (16)	4% (1)
Physical and Sensory Personal Development (25)	100%	48% (12)	52% (13)	
OCR Life and Living Skills Award (17)	100%	36% (9)	64% (16)	

What has gone well

The Spring term was our second full term working beyond the bubbles and the students continued to build upon their success and achievements in the Autumn term. Literacy and Communication continue to be a real strength with 96% of students making expected or above expected progress in Literacy both in the topic and with their reading and development of their phonic awareness and understanding.

The teachers set challenging targets for the students but are careful to ensure that they remain achievable, lesson observation and learning walks have enabled us to observe quality teaching and learning across the school and college and the students enjoy their learning experiences and the curriculum they engage with.

The results in non-core elements of the Key Stage 3/4 curriculum continue to be a strength with the Thematic approach to the Arts and Humanities enabling the students to have a better understanding of and access to these subjects through a single theme. It was also pleasing to see that the new science programmes of study built around the whole school approach to “one planet living” continue to meet the needs of our learners and that they are able to enjoy and achieve in this area of the curriculum also.

In the college, the development of Land Based Science and Animal care is moving quickly with all the students in the college accessing elements of this area of the curriculum. So far, the work done has been captured and will contribute to both the students OCR ‘Life and Living skills’ award and the John Muir Award. OCR Life and Living skills continues to prove itself as the most appropriate foundation to the college curriculum with 100% of the college students making expected or above expected progress towards realising this award.

Areas for Improvement

A small minority of students in the college did not make the expected progress we would have hoped for in Numeracy, the college lead for Math's has investigated this and there does not appear to be a common cause or factor linking these three cases. Students are set ambitious targets and in each of the three cases some progress was made but the criteria for the target was not quite reached. These targets will either be ongoing if appropriate or new revised targets focusing on more achievable goals will be set for the summer term.

Special Activities and Achievements during the Spring Term 2023

Treehouse theatre pantomime



A great way to start the new yearwith an interactive performance of Jack and the Beanstalk
The performance was fun and engaging and young people were able to dress up and take part as well as join in with the singing and dancing

The event was a lovely opportunity to come together and take part in a truly collaborative experience



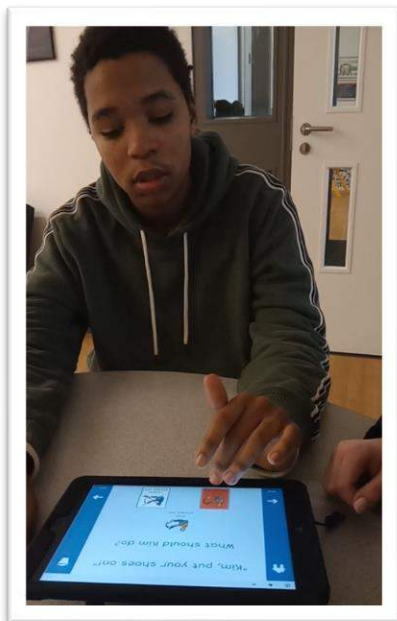
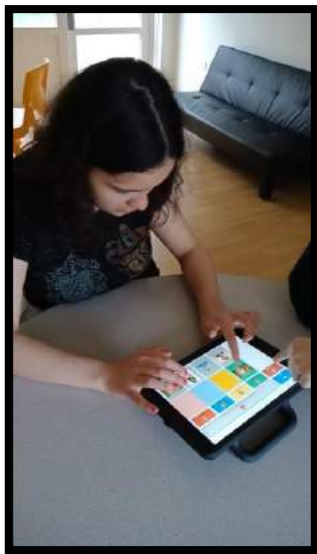


Safer Internet Day 2023



This year the Safer Internet Day theme was `Want to Talk about it? – Making Space for Conversations about life online`

Young people learnt about how to stay safe on line and took part in a range of activities including making their own films to promote the importance of internet safety



Children's Mental Health Week

'Let's Connect'

Children's MENTAL HEALTH WEEK
6-12 February 2023

LET'S CONNECT

Thursday 9th February 2023 - 13:30 - 15:30
Let's Connect - with ourselves through our senses

IN THE HALL

- Different textures
- Yoga
- Hand Massage

IN ADVENTURE PLAY

- Senses and emotions scavenger hunt

IN THE CAFE

- Alerting/calming
- Crunchy/smooth
- Scented playdough
- Scented rice
- Scented oatflour

Mental Health

A special day to celebrate Children's Mental Health Week

Young people took part in a range of activities including; Zones of Regulation hand painting and a 'wheel of emotion' project; sensory based treasure hunt; yoga station; smelling oils and taste table and a self - esteem sock puppet workshop



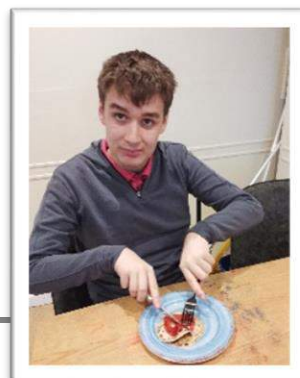


Pancakes in the Café



Celebrating Shrove Tuesday by taking part in the HHS `Pancakes in the Café` event

Everyone was invited to come along and choose their toppings as well as have a go at making their own pancakes



Work experience at the New Forest Fruit Farm

Some of the sixth form have started a new work experience opportunity this term

Working at the New Forest Fruit Farm has offered the chance to spend time in a real working environment, helping to recycle pallets and plant out seedlings

A great introduction to the world of work

Work Experience on the Fruit Farm



Music for Autism – Derek Paravacini visit

We were thrilled to be able to welcome Derek and the Music for Autism team back to HHS

They provided a very special day where Derek played for us and took requests for tunes from the Beatles to Beethoven, Mary Poppins to Miles Davis

Young people had the opportunity to join in and play along or simply sit and relax to the music

A lovely way to celebrate and appreciate the expressive arts and a joyous day for everyone



Award Ceremony

A special award ceremony for Levi

HHS sixth formers were awarded runners up prize in the Care Tech Arts and Crafts competition

The award ceremony took place last year with one HHS young person going along to accept the award

For Levi, who was unable to attend the ceremony, we had our very own celebration at HHS for him where a member of our Professional Learning Community came along to award him the prize



Providing training for Springwell Teacher Training Programme

Springwell Training

Our behaviour support team shared our experiences of supporting mental health and wellbeing at Hill House, with a group of 8 trainee teachers at Springwell school

They talked about the importance of the Zones of Regulation within the school, and how supporting our children with emotional awareness and emotional regulation can increase resilience and create a foundation to build on. They touched on the power of language and shared our nurture project outlining whole school, extra and super nurture approaches

They were able to give examples of some different projects and case studies for both extra and super nurture

"I just wanted to say a big thank youthe trainees were extremely complimentary and I can tell from their conversations, they gained a lot from today"



World Book Day



We enjoyed celebrating 'World Book Day' where young people took part in a whole range of different activities to promote a love of reading

Young people took part in a book themed treasure hunt, made their own bookmarks and even created their own costumes

The day provided a fun and interactive way to encourage young people to explore a range of books and magazines

Young people also had a go at organising the books in the library into different categories based on their themes and genres and were also able to swap their book token for a book of their choice

It was wonderful to see how excited our young people were to receive their new books and how relaxed they were exploring their chosen book in our school library

Overall, the World Book Day event was a positive experience for all involved. Our young people were engaged and enthusiastic about the various activities

It was a great reminder of the importance of reading and the joy it can bring





John Muir Award



This term we have started to work towards the John Muir award

The award encourages young people to connect with, enjoy and care for wild places

It is an environmental award scheme that is inclusive, accessible and non – competitive. It encourages awareness and responsibility for the natural environment in a spirit of fun, adventure and exploration



Out and About

A wide variety of trips out and about took place this term from meals out to lovely walks on the Beach



Summer Term 2023

Termly Targets working towards EHCP Outcomes

Above Expected Progress
Expected Progress
Below Expected Progress

Total Students in Brackets	Overall Expected & Above Progress	Above Expected	Expected	Below Expected
Cognition and Learning Literacy (26)	(25/26) 96%	(8/26)	(17/26)	(1/26)
Literacy Phonics and Reading (26)	(22/26) 85%	(1/26)	(21/26)	(4/26)
Cognition and Learning Numeracy (26)	(24/26) 92%	(12/26)	(12/26)	(2/26)
PSHE/RSE (26)	(25/26) 96%	(15/26)	(10/26)	(1/26)
Thematic Learning (Humanities and the Arts) (9)	(9/9) 100%	(5/9)	(4/9)	
Science One Planet Living (9)	(9/9) 100%	(4/9)	(5/9)	
Land Based Science (17)	(17/17) 100%	(15/17)	(2/17)	
Communication and Interaction (26)	(26/26) 100%	(12/26)	(14/26)	
Social & Emotional (26)	(26/26) 100%	(10/26)	(16/26)	

Physical and Sensory Personal Development (26)	(26/26) 100%	(11/26)	(15/26)	
OCR Life and Living Skills Award (17)	(17/17) 100%	(6/17)	(11/17)	
Preparation for Adulthood (26)	(26/26) 100%	(8/26)	(18/26)	

What has gone well

The academic year 2022/23 was our first full year working beyond the bubbles. In the summer term the students have continued to build upon their success and achievements in the Autumn and Spring terms. Literacy and Communication continue to be a real strength with **96%** of students making expected or above expected progress in Literacy. The teachers set challenging targets for the students but were careful to ensure that they remain achievable. Lesson observation and learning walks have enabled us to observe quality teaching and learning across the school and college and students enjoyed their learning experiences and the curriculum they engage with.

The results in non-core elements of the Key Stage 3/4 curriculum continue to be a strength with the Thematic approach to the Arts and Humanities enabling students to have a better understanding of and access to these subjects through a single theme. Students are allowed to engage in topics from geography and history and do this from a variety of subject lenses e.g. the arts and humanities. This approach works for our students and allows them to embed their knowledge and skills with a single topic focus. **100%** of the students in the lower school were able to meet or exceed their targets in this area of the curriculum.

Our approach to Science is built around the whole school approach to `One Planet Living` and this curriculum continues to meet the needs of our learners. They are able to experience science in a way that is meaningful to them and to enjoy and achieve in this area of the curriculum. This engagement and enjoyment of the One Planet Living curriculum is evidentially supported with **100%** of students meeting or exceeding their targets.

PSHE is a golden thread throughout the curriculum in both the school and college. The students have continued to work hard on developing the knowledge and skills that help them to understand themselves and the world around them. **96%** of the students (25 out of 26) were able to make expected or above expected progress with their targets in this curriculum area. The one student not making the expected progress was set an aspirational target relating to the higher levels of the Zones of Regulation reasoning and they were still able to partially achieve their target.

In the college, the developments of the previous terms Land Based Science and Animal Care is now embedded and this area of learning is now an established part of the college curriculum. This is a universal offer for all the students in the college and school, however some of our sixth form students have made clear choices about wanting to have this make up more of their learning experience and this is reflected in their timetables. The work done this year has been captured and contributes to both the students OCR Life and Living skills award and the John Muir Award. Not only did **100%** of the students in the college meet or exceed their targets in Land Science this term, but also the hard work over the year has meant that two of our students have already been able to achieve their John Muir Award!

OCR Life and Living skills continues to prove itself as the most appropriate foundation to the college curriculum with **100%** of the college students making expected or above expected progress towards realising this award across the academic year.

Areas for Improvement

A small minority of students in the college did not make the expected progress we would have hoped for in Numeracy, the lead for numeracy has been working hard on trying to develop a number of the student's money skills and to introduce the concept of value – this has proven a real challenge for some of our students in the college and work will be ongoing to develop this understanding where it is appropriate.

On first look the results for reading and phonics are disappointing in relation to other curriculum areas. The students who made less than expected progress find the concept of developing a phonic awareness difficult and efforts to help them achieve their targets in this area can prove counterproductive especially when it comes to fostering a love of reading. The team will continue to seek advice from our Speech and Language Therapist on ways forward to help support the students to develop their reading and communication skills.

Students are set ambitious targets and in each of the three cases some progress was made but the criteria for the target was not quite reached. These targets will either be ongoing if appropriate or new revised targets focusing on more achievable goals will be set for the New Academic year.

Special Activities and Achievements during the Summer Term 2023

Opportunities to develop Communication – Self Regulation – Resilience – Independence and Discovery

Outdoor Learning Day



Young people celebrated National Outdoor Learning Day by taking part in a whole range of activities in the great outdoors

There was flower art and bark rubbing activities. Young people enjoyed planting sunflower seeds and also did some weaving using natural items

The day's theme was a perfect way to celebrate our Land Science and Animal Care work and everyone had the opportunity to work towards the John Muir Nature Award



Fairthorne Manor Activity Days

The month of May brought excitement and adventure for Hill House young people as they embarked on Fairthorne Manor activity days. Our adventurers took on physical challenges such as climbing, team challenges, canoeing, jumping pillow, indoor archery and raft building!

The activity days were about physical activities as well as personal development too. Throughout the trip, young people gained confidence, working on their team skills, discovering new hobbies and interests and boosting their resilience

Hill House have always sought to create opportunities for young people to develop beyond the classroom, and these days did just that

We were so proud to see our young people self-regulating whilst being in a different environment, discovering something new and sharing their feedback with everyone

Our school is committed to providing enriching experiences and we are thrilled that the trips were such a success







John Muir Award

Young people have had the opportunity to work towards the John Muir Nature award and this term we have been delighted that two students have been awarded this accreditation

The award is based on an appreciation and respect for nature as well as helping to make a positive contribution

Young people took part in local beach cleans and long walks in the forest as well as helping to plant hanging baskets and work in the school allotment



Careers Week at Hill House



Hill House students enjoyed a careers themed week where they explored and learnt about a whole range of different job roles

A pop-up restaurant provided an opportunity to be a waiter for the day and cooking demonstrations provided the chance to learn new skills

Students ran a farmers market in the school allotment where everyone was able to come and buy fruit and vegetables that had been grown and there was even an allotment themed treasure hunt

Students learnt how to write a CV using their Talk Pad device to add their interests and choices and some young people even attended a mock job interview

The week enabled students to understand, experience and interact with the world of work and provided fun and interesting activities supporting them to develop their Independence, Resilience, Self – Regulation, Communication and Discovery skills





Selling our plants at the local village store

Sixth formers from Hill House have been busy taking part in work experience at a local plant nursery

They learnt about different plants and flowers and planted their own hanging baskets and pots

The young people proudly brought some of these back to HHS where they look beautiful around our reception area

They also took them to the local village store to share with the rest of the community as part of the on-going work the young people do there

A great experience which was part of the Hill House Land Based Science curriculum and a lovely way to connect with the local area



Hill House Chickens

This term we have been so pleased to welcome our HHS chickens!

Everyone has enjoyed helping them to settle into their new home and sixth formers have helped to look after them each day, feeding them and collecting the eggs



Rocket Launch morning at HHS!!!!



A 'rocket' themed morning enabled the classes to learn about space and make their own rockets

There was then a special launch in the afternoon where everyone had the opportunity to send their rockets into space



Trip to Bournemouth Oceanarium

Young people enjoyed a trip to the Oceanarium as part of their thematic learning programme

The trip provided the perfect opportunity to work on individual education targets, communication skills, independence, self – regulation skills and discovery

The trip also linked to our whole school `One Planet Living` initiative



Communication and Interaction

Young people used their Talk Pad device to identify the different marine life and to communicate their feelings about what they could see



Exploration and Discovery

The Oceanarium enabled young people to see first hand the wonders of marine life and provided a stimulating and sensory rich experience

This immersive experience sparked curiosity and prompted young people to want to explore and discover



Increasing Independence, resilience and self – regulation

Young people were able to exercise their autonomy and self – control during the visit. They were able to use their Talk Pad to independently communicate their needs and interests

Unfamiliar situations can be overwhelming for our young people, however the visit encouraged them to step out of their comfort zones and put into practise the strategies they have learnt to be able to self – regulate, using the Zones of Regulation and `clever actions` This is a skill that will be so

valuable in their future life and will enable them to continue to be able to visit a whole range of new and exciting places



Trip to Maiden Castle and the Tutankhamun museum

Our lower school young people went on a trip to Dorchester. There they visited and walked around Maiden Castle, a hillfort from the Iron Age, a subject they had been learning about during the thematic learning curriculum

The challenge was to walk to the top which everyone achieved.....there they enjoyed beautiful views and a real sense of achievement

After a special lunch out, the group then continued their day by visiting the Tutankhamun museum, discovering the wonders of Egypt

The day provided a wonderful opportunity to work on all our curriculum aims, developing independence, communication, self – regulation, resilience and discovery!





Music for Autism

Our visit from Music for Autism provided such a therapeutic and calming day for all

The relaxing and also at times upbeat music from the violin and cello played out from the Juniper hall

Everyone came to listen and to also interact with the music in their own way. Some danced, some sang, some twirled ribbons and others sat and soaked in the atmosphere

These visits are always so special and a reminder of how music is so good for all our souls



Charity Bake Sale for Oakhaven Hospice

Class One worked hard, baking and preparing cakes and biscuits for a special charity bake sale

The class have been learning about anti – bullying and wanted to hold an event in order to raise money for a worthy cause

Young people donned their `Class One Chef` aprons and served the rest of the school in the café

Everyone was able to use their Talk Pad to choose what they wanted and there were some very happy faces!



Expressive Arts Day

Trip to Roche Court Arts Centre and Harp Recital

Conditions were perfect to spend a day in the glorious grounds of Roche Court. On arrival we were warmly welcomed by Emma and Holly, the two artists facilitating the workshop, who gave us a brief outline of how the day would unfold, the sculptures we would be observing and the multi-sensory resources we would be able to access. We were the only visitors there so the young people were able to relax in the knowledge that the space was ours for as long as we wanted to stay. After a welcoming song in the circle, with tactile props and fabrics, we were on the hunt for the first of 3 sculptures, and on finding the first one we sat down on the grass and were encouraged to paint what we saw with broccoli florets and followed this with a sensory game involving parachutes and imagination.....

The second sculpture inspired music to bounce to on giant exercise balls, then we played the part of a marching band and drummed around the sculpture building to a crescendo before relaxing on the grass, looking at pictures in the clouds, or covering ourselves with dark fabrics and reading by torchlight

The third sculpture was inspired by bees and we experimented with making the sound of our own swarm, using tubes and foil; we smelled beeswax and tasted honey and looked at the sky through yellow gels

The day was rounded off with a plenary in the form of a collage, taking inspiration from the materials we had explored throughout the day, and reminding ourselves of what we had seen, heard, smelled and tasted

The facilitators were incredibly receptive to our young people, always sensitive to the different needs of the group, and flexible in terms of what was required to stay regulated and had impressive communication skills

A truly special day!



Back at HHS a special harp recital took place in the hall. Soothing sounds enabled young people to sit back and relax and have some mindful moments. There was also an opportunity to play the harp and many were eager to create their own tunes. A really lovely experience

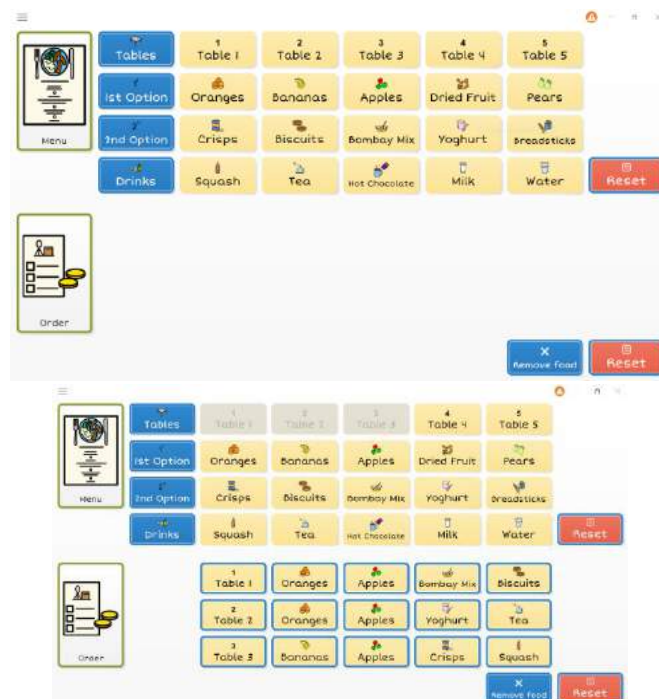


Work experience in the Café

The sixth formers have been busy this term experiencing the world of work in the school café

They have been providing snacks at break time for the whole school, preparing the food items, taking orders and serving their customers

This has been a great opportunity not only for work experience but also to develop communication skills, particularly through the use of the Talk Pads where specially designed grids were created, enabling young people to make choices and order their own snacks



Pop up bookshop – choose a book for the summer!

Young people enjoyed a special summer pop up bookshop

They were able to come and browse and then select the book that they wanted to read over the holidays

There was also a relaxing, mindfulness colouring activity which helped to make the event a really positive experience



Winchester Science Centre trip

Some young people enjoyed a trip to the Winchester Science Centre this term. The trip provided a day of discovery, exploring sound, vision, hearing and space. Everyone enjoyed the interactive games and experiments and even came home with their own rockets!





Visiting a Hindu temple

A special visit to a Hindu temple provided the opportunity to experience a sacred space

Taking in the awe and wonder and learning all about the religion of Hinduism



Marwell Zoo Trip

This summer Marwell Zoo gave us some great trips out. Holly and Jessica were our first young people to visit the zoo this year and it did not disappoint. The girls were able to look at a whole range of animals, inside and outside. The okapi provided a private viewing at feed time, Jessica and Holly both took the time to take in the beauty of these unusual creatures. Holly showed her spirit of adventure when we arrived at the play area. She was up and over all the challenge course with very little help. The zoo was very busy on this particular day and the girls took it all in their stride. Jessica was thoroughly relaxed taking it all in. Holly was totally unphased at sometimes having to wait to see what she wanted to look at. Well done both!

It was Harry and David's turn to head to Marwell next. As the morning went on the boys decided to enjoy the zoo separately, it suited them both better to go at their own pace. Armed with their animal checklist they went off to explore nature's finest. David had a real opportunity to step outside his comfort zone which he did admirably. Harry took his time to have a good look at all the enclosures, he concentrated hard trying to find the animals that were hidden from view, and he managed to mark his checklist off with stickers brilliantly. The luckiest encounter Harry had was with a tiger. With no one else around he waited patiently for this handsome creature to parade past him. He was rooted to the spot as it wandered by. Harry looked and listened intently in the tropical house for the little black frogs. They made an incredible amount of noise for something so small. The most exciting encounter was arguably the train! Unfortunately, we only managed a photo opportunity as the driver had gone home ill. The day was topped off by some treats on the way home, all that animal watching is hungry work!

Class 2 were the last group to go to Marwell before the summer holidays. William, William, Levi and Pierre were very excited when their turn came. The zoo was nice and quiet that day which meant everyone had plenty of peace and space to have a good look around. The animals captured all their interest which enabled lovely questions and conversations about the species that we saw. From giraffe, to zebra, ostriches to oryx, pygmy hippos (that made quite a splash!) to flamingos, our young people walked for miles seeking them out. William was still so enamoured as the day pressed on that he skipped break in the afternoon to discover the tigers. He was rewarded by firstly finding them hidden away up at the end but then the pair were parading around their enclosure and went into their plunge pool, seemingly just for William. Students and staff alike came back full of smiles and laughter, a fitting end to a wonderful day.





ACoRNS steering group meeting

As members of ACoRNS (Autism Community Research Network) at Southampton University we were invited to go along to this term's steering group meeting

This was a great opportunity to work with practitioners from other settings as well as parents and research students alike



Tweets from @ACoRNSoton



ACoRNS Southampton



@ACoRNSoton · Jun 9

Small steps - but together we can make big change



Publication of Digital Story Research Paper

We were delighted that the research work that we had been involved with in collaboration with ACoRNS has been published. We were also so proud to be named as co – authors

The paper **Using 'I am' Digital Stories to facilitate autistic young people to have a voice in their transition to adulthood** was published in the Journal of Special Educational Needs

Digital stories are now an integral part of each young person's `moving home plan` and continue to be a wonderful way to share the essence and true character of a young person

Hosting trainee teachers



This term we hosted some more trainee teachers providing an enhanced placement experience for the end of their course

They had a great time joining in the school day and seeing all the different learning opportunities that we provide for our young people

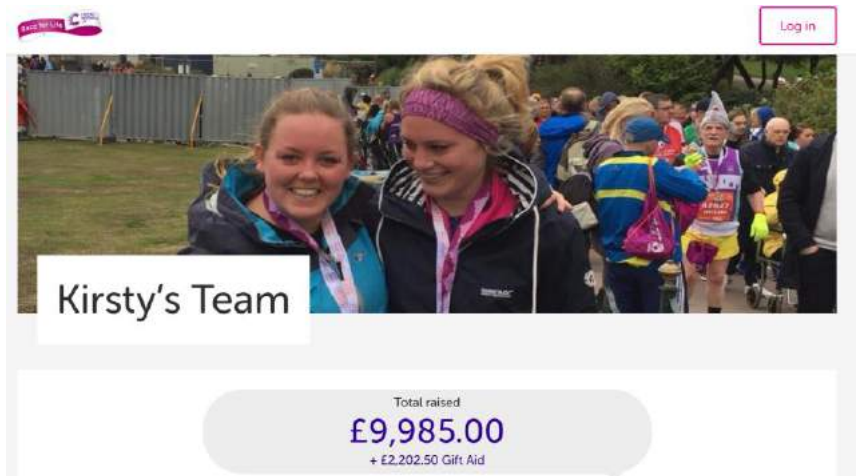
At the end of the placement, the trainees gave us some really positive feedback.....

Hello Louisa and Greg,

I met with my trainees on Friday and they were singing the praises of Hill House. They said they really enjoyed the enhanced placement and were very impressed with the environment at Hill House and the way all the staff knew the pupils so well that any difficulties were diffused very quickly. They also said the Zones of Regulation were very well embedded in all that you do.

I wanted to let you know as they really were beaming!

Race for Life



On a rather wet and soggy Saturday morning, a group of Kirsty's family and friends all took part in the Race for Life, raising an incredible **£12,187** for Cancer Research!!!!

Emily Shirley (Behaviour Support Team Manager) organised `Kirsty's Team` and posted the following on her Race for Life page.....

I am running in support of my wonderful friend Kirsty, who was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in March

Kirsty - "I had been experiencing severe pain in my leg and back for a few months which resulted in going for an MRI, which indicated this was cancer. Since receiving the diagnosis I have had radiotherapy and I am currently undergoing chemotherapy. I have had treatment from both Poole and Bournemouth hospitals and have had brilliant care from the cancer and haematology teams"

Kirsty is so loved by everyone in the Hill House team and we have complete admiration for Kirsty's strength and ability to have such a positive attitude throughout all of this. Watching Kirsty kick cancer, cope with some of the awful side effects and manage ongoing severe pain has been difficult and truly inspiring. And she's been doing all of this whilst thinking of others, baking cakes for her staff at work and buying chocolates for the teams at the hospital to say thank you for her care. Kirsty is one of a kind, and we're so grateful that Cancer Research has been able to develop life changing treatments.

So, we're dusting off our running shoes and downloading the couch to 5k app to get ready for the race for life in July, pulling together to show our love and support to our wonderful friend and colleague whilst she is busy beating cancer!! We would like to raise as much money as we can to support the wonderful teams and incredible research that is helping Kirsty to kick cancer. And what better way than to be active and have fun - both things Kirsty loves doing. Some of us have never run and for lots of us it is our first race for life. In true Kirsty style she will be there to cheer us on!



Celebration Day!

The whole school came together and were joined by friends and family to celebrate the end of another special year

Each young person was congratulated on notable achievements from the year and awarded a special gift to say "well done!"

OCR accreditation and John Muir certificates were also awarded

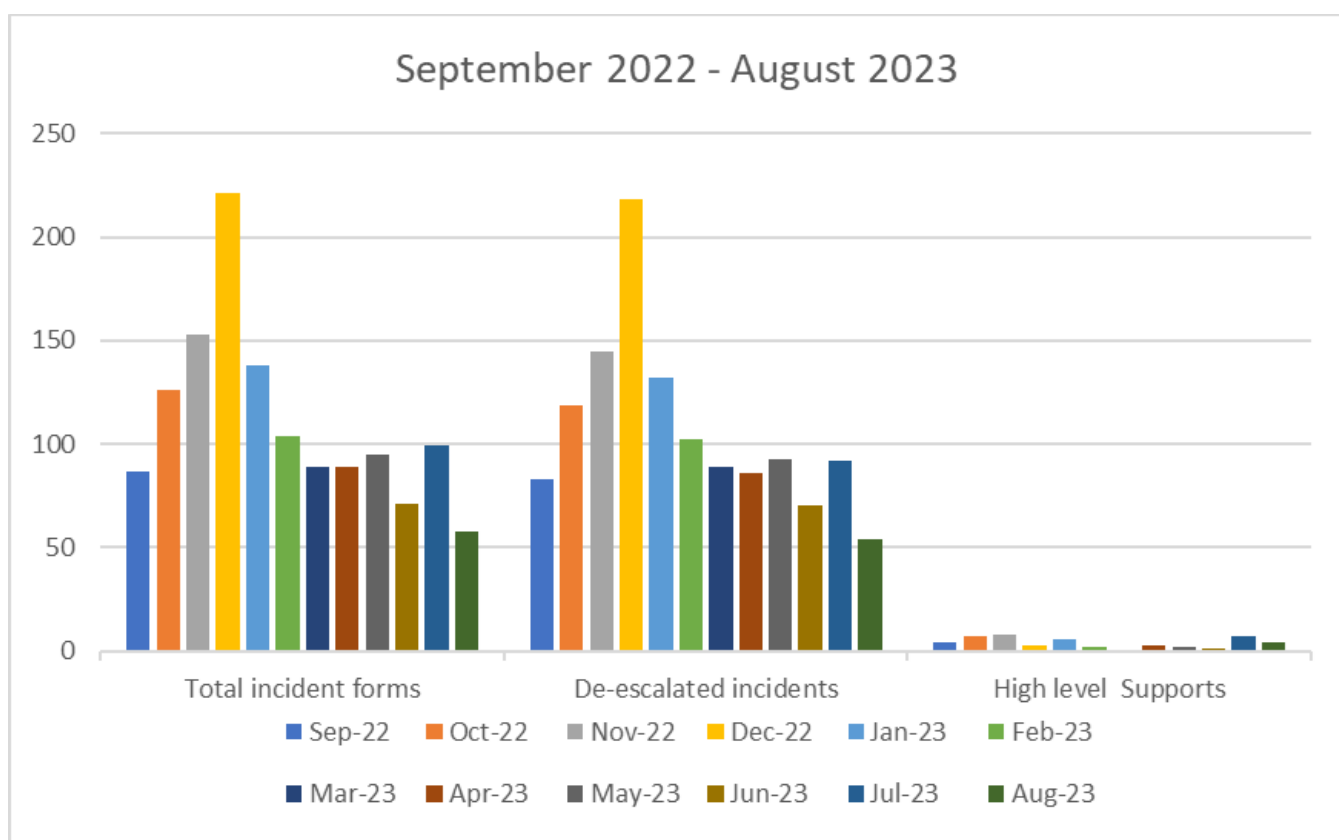
Achievements included;

- * Being able to follow simple instructions
- * Being able to use clever actions and your emotions tool box to self – regulate
 - * You have shown a great understanding and have gained more confidence talking about emotions using the Zones of Regulation. With insightful understanding in Self - regulation, you guide others through emotions in familiar contexts offering `clever actions` and showing empathy
 - * Improving your communication skills by being able to use signing to tell us when an activity has finished
 - * Doing so well telling us and your friends how you are feeling every day with the help of your Talk Pad
 - * Showing thoughtfulness and kindness to your friends when they need help in class
 - * Visiting the allotment weekly to help with different jobs
- * Doing so well learning how to use your Talk Pad, for example, to write a letter every week to your family
 - * Using your Talk Pad and your Toolbox to communicate your needs and feelings
 - * Working in the allotment and learning new skills
- * Developing your self - regulation skills when talking about wants and needs
 - * Taking on so many new challenges this term with courage and positivity
 - * Increasing your independence and taking ownership of your college day

- *Being able to ask for help using your Talk Pad
- *Using your Talk Pad when you are out and about
- *Increasing your resilience, being confident to spend time in different learning environments
- *You have shown great resilience in diverse environments with curiosity and an open mind. Especially notable is your work in the allotment and with the chickens, where you have exhibited kindness and a genuine passion for nurturing all living beings
- *Working hard exploring learning about different body parts
 - *Walking to school each day
- *Improving your attention whilst doing jobs and not becoming distracted by others
 - *Increasing your independence during work experience
- *Being able to use your Talk Pad to discuss different topics and also use it to talk about your feelings and clever actions
 - *Adapting to changes throughout the term and using your Talk Pad for reassurance and self-regulation
 - *Building your resilience and positive attitude for work, especially in the Allotment and PE
- *You have impressively increased your self-expression and are more confident to communicate with your friends. You are able to talk about your interests, likes and dislikes, emotions and other topics showcasing your growing self-assurance. You have also demonstrated independence in using your Talk Pad, seeking help when needed
 - *Working hard in the allotment doing different tasks
 - *You have perfected knot tying, gaining true independence and inspiring others to do the same. Your remarkable growth in friendship skills has been evident through respectful, enjoyable and positive interactions with friends
 - *Following your Now and Next timetable

We celebrated how students have built Emotional Regulation Skills – using the Zones of Regulation

Students have continued to benefit from developing their clever actions to enable self-regulation. The positive impact of this can be seen in the Annual data relating to incidents below, with the vast majority of incidents being de-escalated due to positive strategies that students have acquired through their understanding of the Zones. The language of ‘the Zones’ is in our conversations every day – part of the lingua franca of Hill House.



We announced the winner of the Famous Five Audit – the staff team at Hill house took part in a useful reflection, feeding back on how students have been responding to our curriculum at Hill House – all entries went into a draw and the lucky winner won a weekend on the Isle of Wight. The feedback from staff was truly inspirational.







What a lovely way to end another incredible academic year and Well done everybody!

Time then for the Summer Holiday Fun – three weeks of relaxation and fun ensued! On 23 August everyone came together to celebrate a wonderful Hillfest 2023! Organised by our wonderful Teri Chivers, a day of music, food, relaxation and fun was shared by all.

From our Yoga Tent to the Bouncy Castle in the field to great live music from Owain Clarke playing harp, the Melodic Panman steel drums, Uri on his acoustic guitar and the Ed Martin duo – it was a

joy, accompanied by delicious food from our wonderful Roberto and Martin in the Hill House Kitchen.

Looking ahead to 2023 – 2024

School Development Plan

To further develop practitioner / collaborative enquiry - research opportunities

Development of poly tunnel and raised bed reconfiguration/Wildlife trail at bottom of field/Development of animal care

Use Eco Cabin as base for One Planet Living

Duke of Edinburgh – starting as a timetabled activity

Implement CODES assessment and offer Gestalt training

Building work-related learning/work experience offer

Further develop Integrated Learning Journey and Review

Further 'in conversation with' training videos – to include an introduction to ACORNs, Professional Learning Community as well as Understanding Medication series.

Termly MDT Individual Education Planning reviews

Supervision training for care team supervisors

Student Social Space in the Loft – consultation with students for their leisure choices in this new space.

Termly Multi-Disciplinary Individual Education Plan reviews

Supervision for Care team supervisors

Plan 5 Training Days for Care staff across the year

Regular MSAG meetings (Medication Safety Audit Group)

'Our Voice and Choice' Group launch and link into Youth Parliament

To develop a 'Moving Home' Pack

Update our HHS Reception area

Communication Catch up opportunities for Parents with our Speech & Language Therapist

Eco-monitoring for the whole site with Science Scope technology – enabling us to fulfil our Eco School and One Planet Living intentions in relation to daily life.

Creating a new working space for our Multi-Disciplinary Team within the heart of the Education setting

As ever, we look forward to sharing the journey with you all throughout this school year!

From the Hill House Senior Management Team: Principal - Kate Landells, Vice Principal and Head of Education - Louisa Burden, Registered Manager and Head of Care – Kirsty Marsden, Deputy Head of Education – Greg Jagger, Clinical Integration Lead and Consultant Clinical Psychologist – Dr Karen Varney, Site Manager – Kieran Hawkes.

October 2023