

Dear Parent's and Carers,

### Residential Provision

All families were invited to a meeting at school by the Director of Education and Inclusion (Debbie Edwards) on 29<sup>th</sup> February at 4:00pm to listen to the voice of families with regard to the Local Authority review of Residential provision. There have been a number of reviews of Residential provision over the years. During each review I submit reports to the Local Authority detailing how the funding provided is used to provide excellent activities and opportunities for pupils to develop their social, emotional, life and living skills with their peers and friends. The report also details the impact Residential has on the lives and development of young people.

The success of Residential is only possible due to the strong leadership of Charlene Brown (Head of Care) and Charlotte Yarwood (Deputy Head of Care) and the support of a dedicated, committed, caring and talented residential team.

Thank you to those parents and carers who were able to attend the meeting and share with Debbie their lived experiences of how beneficial Residential has been for their child. My view is that the more evidence and family voices I can share with Debbie the stronger the case would be that Residential makes a significant impact on the development of young people, not only now, but in the future as they transition into adulthood. Independent living and employment become real possibilities due to the work and investment made now.

I fully understand that many parents and carers would not have had the opportunity to attend the meeting yesterday. If you could spend some time over the weekend to write a statement that details your experience of Residential and what it would mean to you and your child if it closed, I will collate all statements and send them to the Director to include in her report to the Local Authority, who will make the final decision.

You may also wish to consider contacting your local Councillor or MP to share with them your concerns that Residential provision is being reviewed.

Debbie has emphasised that no decision has yet been made on the future of Residential provision as the Local Authority considers how best to manage the budget pressures it faces, so we have an excellent opportunity to convince them that Residential provision is an invaluable resource that should be retained for the benefit of young people and the wider community.

### World Book Day

World Book Day is next Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. The aim of the day is to promote reading across the school and to encourage students to consider genres they may not normally think they would like. As part of the day school will be taking part in 'Blind Date with a Book', in which students will receive a free, wrapped book during break time for them to keep. A 'World Book Day' assembly will be delivered by Mr Fitzsimmons, who is also organising the day. Students have the opportunity to dress as their favourite literary character for the day.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Yours faithfully,

**Mr McCann**  
Head Teacher



**Headteacher: Mr M. McCann**