

Summer 2026

Children's Sensory and Physical Needs Service

July 2026



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meet the Team, 5 Minutes with ...	2 - 3
Goodbye & Enjoy Your Retirement! ...	4 - 5
Support Team for Deaf Children ...	6
Physical Needs Team ...	7
Vision Impairment Outreach Team ...	8 - 9
Girlington Primary School Deaf Resourced Provision ...	10 - 12
Grove House Primary School Vision Impairment Resourced Provision ...	13
Swain House Primary School Deaf Resourced Provision ...	14 - 15
Hanson Delta Academy Vision Impaired Resourced Provision ...	16 - 17
Hanson Delta Academy Deaf Resourced Provision ...	18 - 20
Service Contact Details	21

Staff News

A message from our Service Managers

Thank you to all the Children's Sensory and Physical Needs teams for your commitment, kindness and flexibility this year. We are so proud of all that has been achieved this year and the opportunities the children and young people have been exposed to. We hope you all have a very well deserved rest over the summer so that you can return recharged and ready to do it all again next year. We will miss those not returning to our service but wish you all well in your retirement or new roles. Thank you also to the parents and young people for your engagement with our teams this year, working together always helps us get the best results for our young people.

Karen and Jade

Staff Changes This Term

As the academic year comes to a close we are preparing to say goodbye to valued and respected members of our teams, as well as congratulate colleagues who have secured new roles within our service, and welcome new staff who have joined us this term.

Leaving us this term;

Kate Challis	MSI Specialist Teacher	VI Outreach and STDC
Joanne Hey	Specialist Practitioner	VI Outreach
Shiraz Ayub	Teacher of Vision Impaired	VI Outreach
Jess Fawkes	Teacher in Charge	Grove House RP for VI Children
Ann Tolan	Specialist Teacher	Physical Needs Team
Barbara Moores	Teacher in Charge	Hanson RP for VI Children
Pathma Govindsamy	Teacher of the Deaf	Hanson RP for Deaf Children
Annabelle Burnett	Specialist Support Worker	Hanson RP for Deaf Children
Sahar Ijaz	Specialist Support Worker	Hanson RP for Deaf Children

Joining us this term;

Sidra Ilyas has joined us as our newest Deaf Instructor working across Swain House RP for Deaf Children and the Support Team for Deaf Children.

New Roles from September;

Jj Elkiss will be our new Teacher in Charge of the VI Provision at Hanson Delta Academy.

Linda Clough, Specialist Practitioner, will be moving from Grove House Primary to the VI Outreach Team.



Our vision as the STaSS team is:

To offer high quality support for all children through a collaborative approach to provide transformational learning experiences so that children can flourish and make excellent holistic progress and successfully transition to responsible citizens

Meet the Team ... 5 Minutes with ...

Jess Mathers

*Business Support Officer
Deaf and MSI Children and
Young People Service*



What inspired you to work in education?

Ever since I was a little girl, I had always dreamed of becoming a teacher and working with children. Having worked as an Early Years Practitioner in private nurseries for many years, I decided that I needed a change of scene and changed my career path to administration. After a few years working in administration roles, I missed working with children. I absolutely love my role, and knowing that the work that I do to support our teams directly impacts the children who we support fills me with so much pride.

What's a fun fact about you that most colleagues wouldn't know?

I am fascinated with the Royal Air Force and military aircraft. My late Grandad regularly took me to airshows as a child, from the age of 2, and told me lots of stories of his days in the Royal Air Force as an aircraft mechanic. When hearing military aircraft fly overhead most of the time I am able to recognise and name which aircraft it is fairly accurately.

If you could have dinner with any historical figure or fictional character, who would it be and why?

If I could have dinner with any historical figure I think it would definitely have to be Queen Elizabeth II. I am absolutely in love with the Royal Family, and I think that being able to have dinner with and obtain our late Queen's insight into her family and what it was truly like to rule our nation would be an experience like no other!

What's your favourite part of the school day or academic year?

I don't think that I have a particular favourite part of the academic year, although I do absolutely love seeing all of the wonderful things that the children who we support have been up to throughout each term when I collate the newsletter.

What's a book, movie, or podcast you'd recommend and why?

I would 100% recommend 'Hope' by Tom Parker. Tom, who was a member of the boy band The Wanted, wrote Hope while battling the brain tumour that sadly took his life. I was gifted this book by my sister as she knew that I was a fan of the band, I took it on holiday with me a couple of years ago and just couldn't put it down! It is such an inspiring read and a beautiful dedication to his memory.

Meet the Team ... 5 Minutes with ...



All set up and waiting for the stars to make an appearance

Farakh Iqbal **Business Support Officer** **Vision Impairment and** **Physical Needs Service**

What inspired you to work in education?

Working in education was never actually something I had planned! I applied for a role back in 2016 and was successful and the rest is history. What started as an unexpected career move has turned into 10 years working in education. Over that time, I've really come to enjoy being part of

a service that's supports children and their families knowing the work we do can make a real difference.

What's a fun fact about you that most colleagues wouldn't know?

I have a real interest in astronomy and own a telescope. The stargazing season is approaching fast and I'm excited to see Saturn's rings.

If you could have dinner with any historical figure or fictional character, who would it be and why?

If I could have dinner with any historical figure, it would be Albert Einstein. I've always been fascinated by space and the universe, so I'd love the opportunity to ask him questions and hear how his mind works. However, I'm not sure if I'd understand all his answers...

What's your favourite part of the school day or academic year?

My favourite part of the academic year must be the summer holidays...

When the emails finally start to slow down and my inbox gets a holiday too.

Joking aside, I really enjoy the start of a new academic year in September. There is always a sense of a fresh start and a buzz as everyone gets back into their routine.

What's a book, movie, or podcast you'd recommend and why?

I'd recommend the StarTalk podcast with Neil deGrasse Tyson and Chuck Nice. It covers science and space in an entertaining and easy to understand way. I listen to it quite often and usually finish the episode having learnt something new.



Our vision as the STaSS team is:

To offer high quality support for all children through a collaborative approach to provide transformational learning experiences so that children can flourish and make excellent holistic progress and successfully transition to responsible citizens

Goodbye and Enjoy Your Retirement!

Barbara Moores

After a long and dedicated career in teaching, including four years as Teacher in Charge at the Hanson VI Resource Provision, Barbara is leaving us to enjoy more family time and a very well-deserved retirement. Throughout her time with us, she has shown unwavering commitment to supporting pupils, families, and colleagues, making a significant contribution to the success and development of the Resource Provision.

Barbara has worked tirelessly to build strong relationships with the mainstream school, as well as a wide range of external agencies and charities, ensuring that pupils received the support, opportunities, and resources they needed to thrive. Her expertise, passion, and collaborative approach have had a positive impact on countless young people and have helped strengthen the provision's reputation within the wider community.

In addition to her work at Hanson, Barbara has been a highly valued member of the wider Sensory Service, generously sharing her knowledge and experience with colleagues across the service. While she will be greatly missed, we are grateful for everything she has achieved and the lasting legacy she leaves behind. We wish Barbara every happiness in her retirement and all the very best for her future adventures.

Joanne Hey

Joanne has been part of the Bradford VI Outreach Team since 2010 and was the very first Nursery Nurse in the service. Over the years, she has supported countless children and families, building an incredible wealth of knowledge, experience and connections along the way.

Joanne has been a valued colleague, always willing to share her expertise and offer support. She will be greatly missed by both families and colleagues, and her contribution to the service cannot be overstated.

We wish Joanne a long, happy and well-deserved retirement. While she'll be leaving the team, we have a feeling we'll still be turning to her for the occasional piece of advice! Enjoy every minute, Joanne.

Ann Tolan

After nearly 10 years in role as Specialist Teacher for the Physical Needs Team, we say goodbye to Ann Tolan. Ann has supported countless numbers of children and families, ensuring they had the right support every step of the way. She brought a wealth of knowledge to the team, bringing a calm, practical approach to her work. Ann has been a strong advocate for children with physical disabilities, helping schools develop their accessibility to make them more inclusive environments.

We would like to wish Ann all the best in her retirement, she will be missed and we will also miss her delicious home baked scones for team meetings!

Goodbye and Enjoy Your Retirement!

Kate Challis

After many years of dedicated service, we say a fond farewell to Kate Challis, the longest-serving member of the Deaf and MSI Children and Young People Service. Kate began her career in education at Temple Bank School for the Visually Impaired as a Teaching Assistant before becoming a Qualified Teacher of Vision Impairment. Her commitment to supporting children with complex sensory needs led her to further specialise as a Multi-Sensory Impairment Teacher. Throughout her career, Kate has brought a wealth of knowledge, expertise and passion to her work with MSI children and their families. She has been a valued colleague and advocate, always striving to ensure that children receive the support they need to thrive. Her experience, insight and dedication have had a lasting impact on countless children, families and professionals across the authority. As Kate begins her well-earned retirement, she leaves behind a remarkable legacy, and while her company and expertise will be greatly missed, we wish her every happiness and success in this next chapter of her life.

Pathma Govindsamy

After a 33-year career in education across South Africa and England, Pathma will be retiring from Deaf Education in July 2026. For the past 25 years, she has dedicated her professional life to supporting Deaf children and young people in Bradford, beginning her journey at Thorn Park School for the Deaf, before moving to the Deaf Resource Provision at Hanson Academy. Throughout her career, she has made a lasting difference to the lives of countless Deaf young people, helping them to achieve their potential and navigate their educational journeys with confidence. She has also been a valued mentor to many newcomers to the profession, generously sharing her knowledge, experience, and encouragement. Her warmth, dedication, and unwavering commitment to Deaf Education will be greatly missed by colleagues, students, and families alike. Alongside her professional talents, she is renowned for her exceptional baking and cooking skills, which have brought joy to many staff gatherings over the years. As she begins this well-deserved retirement, she leaves behind an inspiring legacy and a community that is deeply grateful for her service.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT

wishing you all the best



Our vision as the STaSS team is:

To offer high quality support for all children through a collaborative approach to provide transformational learning experiences so that children can flourish and make excellent holistic progress and successfully transition to responsible citizens

Support Team for Deaf Children

Whole Service Sports Day

Several deaf children who are on our outreach caseload attended the recent Whole Service Sports Day which was hosted by Hanson Delta Academy. The children took part in lots of sporting games and activities, and thoroughly enjoyed spending time with their deaf peers.



Early Years Visits

Afza and Penny have been doing lots of visits to pre-nursery children this term, including lots of visits in the children's gardens, and joint visits alongside a Speech and Language Therapist from the Yorkshire Auditory Implant Service (YAIS).



Early Years - Play in the Park

The Early Years team met on Tuesday 14th July for a fun morning playing in the park. Deaf early years children and their parents were invited to join the team, who were also joined by Vicki Forbes, the National Deaf Children's Society Community Connector.

Lots of fun was had by all who attended!



Our vision as the STaSS team is:

To offer high quality support for all children through a collaborative approach to provide transformational learning experiences so that children can flourish and make excellent holistic progress and successfully transition to responsible citizens

Physical Needs Team

It has been a busy term for the Physical Needs Team!

This term we welcomed Rachael Thorpe to the team who has taken up our new Specialist Practitioner role. Rachael has been working alongside the Specialist Teachers to deliver support for students with their handwriting skills as well as taking an active part in our manual handling support and advice around accessibility.



Following a very successful evaluation visit we are delighted that Home Farm Primary School are the latest setting to receive our Physical Friendly Setting award! This award celebrates the school's commitment to inclusion for children with physical needs and we were impressed with both the accessible provision and flexible approach to meeting the needs of pupils with physical needs. For further information about the process, please see our page on Bradford Schools Online [Physical Needs Team | Bradford Schools Online](#)

This term, two members of the team supported a group of students from Dixons Allerton Academy to attend a pupil voice event at City Hall. The day was a powerful opportunity for the students to work together to consider how their needs are met in school and the community and the students also had the chance to develop their independence skills using public transport for the journey there and back!

Thank you!
AND FAREWELL

After nearly 10 years working in the Physical Needs Team, we are sad to be saying goodbye to Ann Tolan who is leaving the team at the end of term. Ann has been an asset to the team; we will miss her and wish her all the best for the future.

Our vision as the STaSS team is:

To offer high quality support for all children through a collaborative approach to provide transformational learning experiences so that children can flourish and make excellent holistic progress and successfully transition to responsible citizens

It is always lovely to receive feedback from parents, huge thanks to this Mum, who told us;

"My daughter really enjoyed the session and had a great time taking part in the different activities. The activities were engaging and well suited to the children, and it was lovely to see everyone getting involved. We'd definitely love to come along again. Thank you for organising such a lovely event!"

This was Joanne's last Early Years session before she retires, we couldn't let her go without thanking her for all her kindness, knowledge, advice and brilliant ideas and activities, the children and adults joined us in three cheers for Joanne! Thank you Joanne, we will miss you so much!



Vision Impairment Outreach Team

Early Years Lister Park Event

The Early Years team welcomed children, parents and school staff to Lister Park for a morning full of fun and fresh air.

The children seemed to really enjoy playing in the ice cream shop, ordering, preparing and selling real ice creams with sauce and sprinkles as well. They did feel quite expensive, with a guide price of £45, but delicious none the less! It was lovely to see the children talking to each other in this role play activity and socialising really well.



The children also took part in a hook-a-duck activity, sand play with ice cream scoops to make and decorate their own sandy ice-creams, clay, and ball games. The chat around all of these activities was lovely to listen to and the motor skills required were being displayed well by lots of the children too.



Bubbles seemed to be a huge favourite with the children, they seemed to bring a smile to everyone who had a go.



The session finished with some awesome dance moves. A big thank you to Gemma for leading this part of the day. I think every child had a smile on their face and it was accompanied by beautiful singing with some children knowing all the words, especially to the K-Pop songs!

Finally, we closed the session by having a picnic together, the children showed their independence and this was a lovely way to finish our session.



Our vision as the STaSS team is:

To offer high quality support for all children through a collaborative approach to provide transformational learning experiences so that children can flourish and make excellent holistic progress and successfully transition to responsible citizens

Vision Impairment Outreach Team (Continued)

VI Cricket Event - 26th June 2026

On one of the hottest days this year, 28 pupils with VI from around 10 different schools, participated in a VI cricket event at Bowling Old Lane Cricket Club. Coaches from Bradford and District VI Cricket Club (who all have vision impairment themselves) led the cricket sessions. There were lots of breaks for shade, drinks, and most importantly lots of ice pops!!

In the afternoon, pupils had the chance to explore a range of practical gadgets designed to support cooking and food preparation. They were particularly excited to try out some wearable technology, with the Meta AI Ray-Ban glasses proving a real hit.

The group also took time away from the physical activities to take part in a structured voice session led by SEND Youth Participation Officer Lucy Cartwright, alongside Healthy Minds apprentices Amy and Alana. The session began with a fun, sports-themed "Would You Rather" icebreaker before moving into a series of votes that encouraged more open discussion.

A key message that came through strongly was just how important choice is. Pupils spoke about wanting a wider range of sports and being more involved in deciding what happens in PE lessons. It wasn't just about the activities themselves either - who they take part with matters just as much. Feeling comfortable and having trust in the people around them can make a big difference to their enjoyment and confidence.

The social side of the day was another clear highlight. Pupils really valued the opportunity to meet other young people with vision impairment, as well as spending time with friends from their own schools who they don't always get the chance to socialise with. It was lovely to see students naturally supporting one another, taking others under their wing and creating a real sense of community throughout the day.



Our vision as the STaSS team is:

To offer high quality support for all children through a collaborative approach to provide transformational learning experiences so that children can flourish and make excellent holistic progress and successfully transition to responsible citizens

Girlington Primary School Resourced Provision for Deaf Children

Making Magic Potions

In years 1 and 2 we have been reading the book 'Room on the Broom' by Julia Donaldson. We learnt about nouns and verbs and practised chopping, stirring, mixing and pouring different magical things to make a magic potion. We had a great time exploring different methods of making potions, and then wrote some fantastic sentences using nouns and verbs to describe what we had done.



Year 2 Trip to Temple Newsome

As part of their topic on 'Monarchs', Year 2 enjoyed a trip to Temple Newsam. They found out what it was like to be a Victorian servant, and worked hard doing lots of the jobs servants had to do around the house. They then found out what it was like to be a member of the nobility, and had great fun dressing up and role playing dinner time. We wonder which they would have preferred to have been?!



Year 3 Visit to Eldwick Primary School

As part of the Year 3 Linking Project, the RP children joined their class and visited Eldwick Primary School. This was the third time this year that both schools have had the chance to come together.

The children took part in a fantastic range of activities, including building their own tents and testing how sturdy they were using an air-blower machine and water guns to check if they were windproof and waterproof. They also enjoyed PSHE, where they created their own stories, as well as art sessions involving drawing and watercolour painting. The day finished with exciting Sports Day activities, which everyone threw themselves into with great enthusiasm.

The children loved spending time with both their old and new friends from Eldwick, and it was wonderful to see them working together, laughing together and building even stronger connections.



National Gardening Week

To celebrate National Gardening Week the RP children held an afternoon of gardening activities. They shared stories about gardens, and then decorated pots and planted cress seeds. The sun shone, and they enjoyed a garden hunt in the school garden. They investigated with magnifying glasses, and took some beautiful photos of the plants, flowers and insects in the garden. They are all looking forward to their cress growing, and curious to see how it tastes!



Girlington Primary School Resourced Provision for Deaf Children (Continued)

The Great Yorkshire Show

Year 4 enjoyed an exciting trip to Harrogate to experience the Great Yorkshire Show. They had a wonderful day exploring everything the show had to offer.

One of the highlights was watching the sheepdog demonstrations, where the children saw how expertly trained dogs guide sheep into pens and follow their handler's commands. The group were fascinated by the skill and teamwork between the dogs and their shepherds.

The children also visited the craft area, where they had the chance to create their own willow-pool designs. Fatima especially loved this activity and proudly made a willow fish to take home.

To finish the day, the class took part in a hands-on workshop learning about dry stone walling. They discovered how to build a sturdy wall using traditional, heavy stones — no cement needed — just careful placement and old-fashioned technique.

It was a fantastic day full of learning, creativity and new experiences.



Parent Audiology Morning

On Wednesday 20th May, Girlington Primary School RP hosted a cross-service audiology information morning for parents and carers. All the feedback from parents was really positive. Parents said that they were provided with useful information, and that if they wanted to clarify or explore something further, they felt able to ask lots of questions. They learned to understand their own children's audiograms, found out about the cochlear implant assessment process, re-tubed a hearing aid and learnt about Deaf awareness and good communication habits in the home.

Parents enjoyed the relaxed and sociable atmosphere, and felt comfortable sharing their own experiences and asking questions. Many said that they felt more confident maintaining their children's hearing aids now.

We hope to run more of these events in the future, so do come and join us!

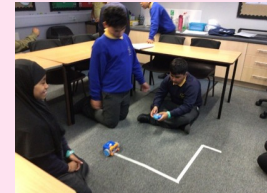


Year 5 and 6 Exploring and Designing

Year 5 and 6 children from Girlington Primary School resourced provision went exploring outside on a right-angle hunt as part of their maths lesson.



They also practised using directional language such as backwards, forwards, clockwise and anticlockwise by programming robots and following their partner's instructions.



The Year 6 RP pupils designed and created a bag using upcycled materials in their DT topic. They practised skills such as cutting and sewing and created a lovely souvenir to remind them of their time at Girlington.



Our vision as the STaSS team is:

To offer high quality support for all children through a collaborative approach to provide transformational learning experiences so that children can flourish and make excellent holistic progress and successfully transition to responsible citizens

Girlington Primary School Resourced Provision for Deaf Children (Continued)

Deaf Footballers Inspire Pupils at School

Children from Girlington and Swain House Resourced Provisions met a Deaf footballer, who had represented Scotland and Great Britain in many matches. He showed us his incredible collection of trophies and medals and explained the importance of staying active. It was very inspiring to hear his story and the children took part in a tournament of their own!

Girlington Primary School was delighted to welcome Hashim Rayment, a talented Deaf footballer, who visited the school to share his inspiring journey in football. Hashim spoke about his experiences growing up as a Deaf athlete, the challenges he faced, and how determination and hard work helped him achieve success.

The children were fascinated to learn about Mr Rayment's football career, including his achievements playing for the England Deaf Football Team and representing Great Britain. He encouraged pupils to believe in themselves, never give up on their dreams, and to always work hard to reach their goals.

Following the presentation, the pupils took part in an exciting football coaching session. Hashim taught the children how to dribble the ball around cones, helping them develop their football skills while having lots of fun. The afternoon ended with a thrilling penalty shoot-out, where the children had the opportunity to put their new skills into practice.

The visit was a fantastic experience for everyone involved! The children thoroughly enjoyed the activities and were inspired by Hashim's story, making it a memorable afternoon for all.



Farewell and Good Luck!

It's that time of the year again, where we will be saying goodbye to our Year 6 RP pupils by the end of this term. All pupils have worked really hard and have made excellent progress over the years. They have created many special memories and we are all very proud of each one of them.

Two of the pupils will be moving on to secondary school, one will be going to Hanson and one will be moving to Dixons Allerton. We will be very sad to see them leave Girlington but we wish them all every success and happiness at their new school.



Sports Day at Hanson

Resourced Provision pupils from Girlington Primary, Swain House and Hanson academy came together for an exciting joint Sports Day. The children had a fantastic time making new friends and catching up with Hanson students, who had previously attended Swain House or Girlington during their primary school years.

They took part in a brilliant range of activities, including 25m and 50m races, relay, egg-and-spoon, sack jumping, and the cone challenge. Every child gave their best effort, cheering one another on and showing great teamwork and determination.

At the end of the event, all pupils received a medal for taking part, with an additional medal awarded to those who achieved first place in their races or challenges. The smiles said it all, the children absolutely loved the day and enjoyed every moment of fun, friendship and sport.



Grove House Primary School Resourced Provision for Children with Vision Impairment

Braille Workshop

Last half term, the resourced provision worked alongside the outreach team to host a braille workshop for parents at Grove House Primary School. The aim of the workshop was to give parents more information about the mechanics of braille, and to share useful, accessible braille activities which they could do with their children at home.

The event was very well received, with parents keen to attend more sessions! The parents enjoyed the opportunity to find out how braille works, and to have a go at using a Perkins Braille to record some braille themselves. We also advised parents on how they could continue to learn braille at home, through signposting online braille courses.

We hope everyone who attended found the workshop useful and look forward to seeing more parents at future workshops next year.



Library Trip

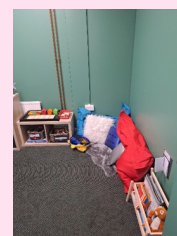
This half term, the children at the resourced provision attended Eccleshill library for an accessible library session through Purple Patch Arts. The session was fantastic, with the children highly engaged with the fun, multi-sensory activities throughout the session.

The children also had the opportunity to talk to the librarians, who shared the choice of accessible books at the library, and also demonstrated Borrow Box, which provides access to free audio and talking books. The children were introduced to the Summer Reading Challenge, and then they each went home with a fun kit bag, a bookmark, and a library card, so they could borrow more accessible story books (either large print, braille, or audio) with their families!



Sensory Room Updates

The children have enjoyed accessing our newly set up VI sensory room this year. It has been a key space where the children can play together in small groups, as well as develop important early compensatory skills through multi-sensory toys and resources. The children have also engaged in lots of multi-sensory story sessions this half term, particularly with a seaside and pirate theme- as this is a key topic for the children and one they have all really enjoyed!



Our vision as the STaSS team is:

To offer high quality support for all children through a collaborative approach to provide transformational learning experiences so that children can flourish and make excellent holistic progress and successfully transition to responsible citizens

Whole Service Sports Day

RP pupils from Swain House joined the RP pupils from Girlington school for a fantastic Sports Day at Hanson School. We all met on the field, where the children took part in a variety of relay races and running activities. Thankfully, there was plenty of water available to keep everyone hydrated.

We then moved into the main sports hall to enjoy even more fun events, including the egg and spoon race, sack race and other exciting team challenges. The children showed great enthusiasm, teamwork and determination throughout the day. After all the activities, everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch in the main dining hall, with chicken burgers followed by chocolate cake.

We also received a medal each. We came back to Swain House feeling exhilarated, exhausted and overheated after such a brilliant day!



Swain House Primary School Resourced Provision for Deaf Children

Role Models

This term we had Deaf adults come into school to share their life experiences with the children,

Susie Farrar, who is our Senior Deaf Instructor, came and shared her story of how she grew up in a family of many Deaf people and how she became a Deaf Instructor.

Susie is based at Hanson School, which is our secondary school provision.

The children were engaged throughout the visit and asked lots of interesting questions.



Deaf Role Models in Sports

We were delighted to welcome Mr Rayment, a former Great Britain and Scotland Deaf footballer, to our school. He talked to the children about his experiences as a Deaf footballer, from his early years in junior school and attending a Deaf school in Surrey, through to playing football in secondary school competitions. He was later selected to represent Great Britain and then Scotland in Deaf football matches.

During his visit, Mr Rayment taught the children football skills such as ball control and passing. He also taught them football vocabulary, including terms such as defence and attack. We organised activities on the school field and the children had a football match against Girlington School who came to Swain House for Mr Rayment's visit.



Our vision as the STaSS team is:

To offer high quality support for all children through a collaborative approach to provide transformational learning experiences so that children can flourish and make excellent holistic progress and successfully transition to responsible citizens

Swain House Primary School Resourced Provision for Deaf Children (Continued)

Yorkshire Wildlife Park

Year 5 had an amazing time at the Yorkshire Wildlife Park. They learnt about all the different animals and their diet. We saw lions, monkeys, meerkats, wallabies, giraffes, polar bears and so much more.



Cricket

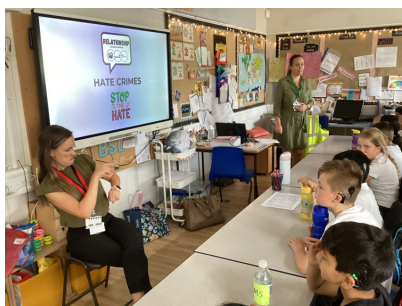
During their mainstream PE lessons, the RP children have been joining their mainstream classmates for cricket sessions led by an external cricket coach. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning the game, particularly the ball-handling and batting activities, that helped develop their skills, before playing a full game of cricket. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm, growing confidence and teamwork throughout the sessions. They have had so much fun while learning a new sport.



PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, and Economic Education)

Throughout Summer 2 (2026), we have been fortunate to take part in a series of engaging PSHE workshops led by external visitors. The sessions have covered a range of important topics, including looking after our physical and mental wellbeing, building healthy friendships, treating others with kindness and respect, understanding stereotypes and prejudice, recognising hate crime, challenging misogyny in an age-appropriate way, and learning about growing up, relationships and the changes our bodies experience as part of Relationships and Health Education.

The workshops have been interactive, thought-provoking and really enjoyable. The children have listened respectfully, asked some excellent questions and shown maturity when discussing topics that can sometimes be challenging. These sessions have encouraged everyone to reflect on how to keep themselves safe, make positive choices and show empathy and respect towards others. It has been wonderful to see the children engaging so thoughtfully and confidently.



Careers Week

Week beginning 29th June 2026

As part of Careers Week, the RP children attended an inspiring talk from Gareth Thompson of Kingdom of Wrestling, who shared his journey into professional wrestling. Gareth spoke about how he developed his career, the hard work and training involved, and proudly showed the trophies and championship belts he has won along the way. He also shared stories about meeting many well-known people throughout his career.

The children especially enjoyed watching the wrestling demonstrations on the mat. Gareth explained that professional wrestling requires extensive training and a strong focus on safety. They were fascinated to learn that many of the moves are carefully choreographed and exaggerated to make them look painful, when in reality they are performed in a controlled and safe way.

The session was a huge hit with the RP children, who left with a greater understanding of the dedication, discipline and teamwork involved in a career in professional wrestling. We are looking forward to hearing from many more visitors from a range of careers throughout the rest of the week.



Our vision as the STaSS team is:

To offer high quality support for all children through a collaborative approach to provide transformational learning experiences so that children can flourish and make excellent holistic progress and successfully transition to responsible citizens

Hanson Delta Academy Resourced Provision for Vision Impaired Children and Young People

Year 7 Residential

When you go on a 2 night Year 7 residential you know you'll be challenging yourself to try new experiences, overcome your fears, make new friends and have plenty of fun. That's what two Year 7 students; one from the Deaf and one from the VI resourced provisions threw themselves into for two days in mid April! We went to North Yorkshire and in the parkland and woods of a 18th century mansion we tried out so many climbing challenges over 10 metres, plus archery and probably the most popular: laser tag chase. *'We want to go on more adventures while we are at Hanson Academy!!!!'* was the response.



VI Resourced Provision Parent Coffee Morning

On 7 May, the VI Resource Provision hosted its first parent coffee morning — the first of what we hope will become a regular termly event. The morning gave parents and carers of our VI students the chance to meet, connect and share experiences over refreshments, while also hearing from a guest speaker. This term, we were pleased to welcome Justyna Wieglosz from the Royal Society for Blind Children, who spoke about the support available through the Families First initiative and shared advice on building resilience in young people with VI. The event was very well received, and we are already looking forward to future coffee mornings. If you would like more information, or access to the materials shared during the session, please email elkissj@hanson.org.uk.



VI Cricket - June 2026

Students from the Resourced Provision enjoyed a brilliant day of VI Cricket at Bowling Old Lane Cricket Club on Friday 26 June.

The day began with an introduction before students headed out onto the field for VI Cricket activities, led by Mr Zahid as head coach. Everyone had the opportunity to get involved, taking turns batting, bowling and fielding. There was plenty of encouragement, laughter and teamwork throughout the morning, with students showing great confidence and enthusiasm. Some students even managed some impressive big hits across the field!

It was an extremely hot and sunny day, with temperatures reaching around 33° C. We were all melting in the heat, but everyone was sensible, took regular water breaks and no one complained. Mrs Cracknell also brought along ice pops, which were very much appreciated by everyone.

At lunchtime, students took part in a session with Gemma from the Habilitation Team. They had the chance to try out some impressive high-tech glasses, which demonstrated how developing technology may support people with vision impairment. Gemma also showed students practical independent living equipment, including safe ways to grate and slice food.

In the afternoon, youth workers led a discussion session where students were able to share their views about PE in school. Students talked about what helps them access PE successfully and how mainstream PE could be made more accessible for students with vision impairment. This gave students a valuable opportunity to have their voices heard.

The day finished with another outdoor session, where students took part in cricket and other games with Mrs Khan and Mr Ayub. Everyone enjoyed the chance to be active, try new skills and support each other.

Overall, it was a very positive day. Students represented Hanson Academy brilliantly and showed confidence, teamwork, resilience and a willingness to take part in inclusive sport.



Hanson Delta Academy Resourced Provision for Vision Impaired Children and Young People (Continued)

Hanson Academy Choir at St George's Hall

After weeks of rehearsals, hard work learning the lyrics, initially in Braille, and then memorising from listening to the songs on YouTube, both Aiza Qasim and Anaya Khan performed with the Hanson Academy choir at St George's Hall. It was a very exciting and successful evening. The audience certainly showed how much they appreciated the entertainment they had been treated to.



Beyond the Visual Exhibition

The students and staff from the Resourced Provision were determined to visit a ground breaking exhibition at the Henry Moore institute in Leeds. This is a famous venue where exhibitions focus on sculpture. We visited the Beyond the Visual exhibition. What was unique about the experience was that all the exhibits were created to be accessible to be explored by touch, smell and sound. What's more the majority of the exhibits had been created by vision impaired artists. One of the artists arrived during our visit, flying in from his home in Canada. He explained that he had lost his vision progressively as a young person. He remembers enjoying firework displays in his home city, so he decided to create sculptures on glass, back-lit by bright coloured light to represent fireworks as the burst in a night sky. Before we left the gallery we were able to explore by touch an original Henry Moore sculpture called Mother and Child.

The second part of the visit was a creative sculpture workshop. The idea of the workshop was to create a vertical sculpture using a range of unusual tactile objects and materials, which could be strung and stacked together to create unique totem poles. All in all it was an unusual and entertaining experience. which opened up so many possibilities for creativity and participation in the arts.



Our vision as the STaSS team is:

To offer high quality support for all children through a collaborative approach to provide transformational learning experiences so that children can flourish and make excellent holistic progress and successfully transition to responsible citizens

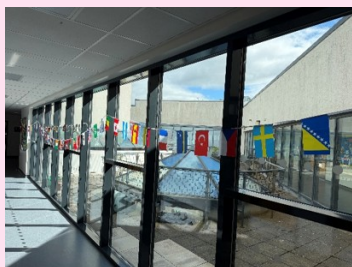
World Cup Sweepstake

To add to the excitement of the tournament, Hanson has been running a World Cup sweepstake across the Resourced Provision. Our Deaf Instructor, Jane Foulston, has created a fantastic visual resource to track each team's progress throughout the competition.

Every pupil selected one team to represent in the sweepstake. The remaining teams were allocated to pupils who have achieved 100% attendance, earned Tri-Stars, or been recognised as a Star of the Week.

There are four prizes up for grabs, with the lucky winners to be announced at the start of the new academic year. The pupils in Years 7 to 10 have enjoyed taking part in the event and have been learning the signs for each of the participating countries.

A huge thank you to Jane Foulston for organising this engaging and inclusive initiative, which has helped pupils celebrate the tournament while developing their signing skills.



18

Hanson Delta Academy Resourced Provision for Deaf Children and Young People

The Youth Voice Summit 2026

On 9 June 2026, six students from the Deaf Resourced Provision attended the Youth Voice Summit at Bradford City Hall.

The event was organised by Bradford Council and provided a platform for young people with SEND to share their views and lived experiences, helping to shape future services.

All of the students actively contributed to discussions, sharing their opinions on how services could be improved and highlighting the issues that matter most to them.

The event also provided an opportunity for students to socialise with other young people and learn about the range of services available to them within the local community.



End of Year Reward - Trip to Xscape

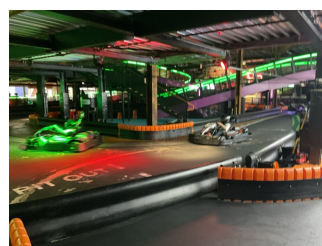
On 24 June, all of the students from the Deaf Resourced Provision enjoyed an end-of-year reward trip to Xscape in Castleford. Before the visit, the students voted for the activities they wanted to take part in, which included LaserZone, Tenpin Bowling and Indoor Karting.

The group also enjoyed sharing pizza together and had time to have fun in the arcades.

All of the students were a credit to the school. They behaved exceptionally well throughout the day and demonstrated the respect, maturity and positive attitude that they show every day.

The trip was made possible thanks to a very generous donation from the Yorkshire Deaf Sports Council, Leeds. The organisation regularly raises money for charitable causes and chose to support the Deaf students at Hanson by funding this special day out.

A huge thank you to the Yorkshire Deaf Sports Council for their generosity. Thanks to their support, our students had a fantastic and memorable end to the school year.



Our vision as the STaSS team is:

To offer high quality support for all children through a collaborative approach to provide transformational learning experiences so that children can flourish and make excellent holistic progress and successfully transition to responsible citizens

Hanson Delta Academy Resourced Provision for Deaf Children and Young People (Continued)

Deaf Instructor Updates

We are incredibly proud of our Year 11 pupils, Henry Hargreaves, Emiliya Balogova and Robin Buka, who have successfully completed the British Sign Language (BSL) Linguistics: Productive and Receptive Skills unit, based on the linguistic components of Signature's Level 3 BSL curriculum.

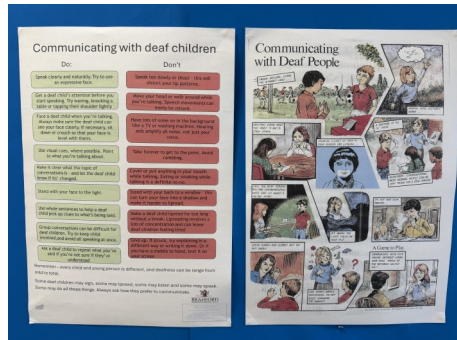
This is a new pathway that we introduced this year, following their completion of BSL Level 2. Rather than progressing directly to the full Level 3 qualification, students have had the opportunity to develop their linguistic knowledge and understanding through this alternative route, which also supports progression towards AQA accreditation.

Their commitment, enthusiasm and determination have been outstanding throughout the programme. They have embraced the challenge of studying the structure and use of BSL at a higher level, and their success is thoroughly deserved. We could not be prouder of what they have achieved. Congratulations to all three students on this fantastic accomplishment!



Deaf Awareness Week 2026

Deaf Awareness Week was delivered from 5th to 8th May. During form time, students took part in sessions on communicating with Deaf children, including key dos and don'ts. Four video clips created by Jess Temple were also shown, featuring Year 8 pupils acting out barriers that Deaf people may face in everyday communication. The poster for both Communicating with Deaf children and communication with Deaf people shared to every classrooms and displays in their rooms across Hansons floors.



A Warm Welcome to our New Deaf Instructor

We are delighted to welcome Sidra Ilyas to our team as our new Deaf Instructor.

Sidra will be working across both Swain House Primary School and the Peripatetic Team, bringing her skills, experience, and enthusiasm to support our children, families, and colleagues.

We are excited to have Sidra join us and look forward to the valuable contribution she will make across both settings. Please join us in giving her a very warm welcome and wishing her every success in her new role.

Welcome to the team, Sidra!



Birmingham Deaf Expo 2026 - A Valuable Professional Connection

On 16 May, I had the pleasure of attending the Birmingham Deaf Expo alongside my colleague, Jane Foulston. The event was an excellent showcase of services, innovations, and organisations supporting the Deaf community. With a wide variety of exhibitors present, it provided valuable insight into current developments across the sector, including several Video Relay Service (VRS) providers demonstrating their services and highlighting the healthy competition within the industry.

One particularly rewarding aspect of the day was reconnecting with Marie, a Teacher of the Deaf (ToD) from the Royal School for the Deaf, Derby (RSDD). Marie, who is Deaf herself, visited Hanson Delta Academy several years ago to learn more about our approach to delivering BSL Level 3 qualifications to Year 10 and Year 11 pupils.

During our conversations, we discussed the opportunities available to Deaf young people to study BSL at a higher level. At the time of her visit, there was an assumption that most pupils would only progress to BSL Level 2 during their school years and complete Level 3 later in adulthood. I was able to share our experience at Hanson Delta Academy, explaining that BSL Level 3 is an achievable and highly valuable qualification for secondary aged students, carrying a level of academic challenge comparable to A-Level study.

Following that discussion, Marie introduced a similar opportunity for pupils at RSDD. It was therefore incredibly rewarding when she approached me again at the Expo to share the positive impact this had made. She explained that the programme has been a great success and kindly acknowledged that our earlier conversations had played a significant role in influencing their decision.

It was a wonderful example of how professional collaboration and the sharing of good practice can benefit Deaf learners across different settings. Receiving such positive feedback was both humbling and encouraging, and it reinforces the value of working together to raise aspirations and expand opportunities for Deaf young people.

Susie Farrar

Senior Deaf Instructor

Our vision as the STaSS team is:

To offer high quality support for all children through a collaborative approach to provide transformational learning experiences so that children can flourish and make excellent holistic progress and successfully transition to responsible citizens



BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE



Level 1

This course aims to teach beginners basic sign language skills, leading to a qualification that enables communication with Deaf Individuals.

MONDAY

3:30 – 5:15PM

Starting 7th September 2026

Based at Girdlington Primary School

Interested? Contact Details:

EMAIL ADDRESS: Natalie Corr – CorrN@hanson.org.uk

First come, first served!

Classes will take place every Monday (during term time only)

£500 FEE – 3 EXAMS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR INCLUDED

Children's Sensory and Physical Needs Service

The Children's Sensory and Physical Needs Service is made up of the Deaf and MSI Children and Young People Service and the Vision and Physical Needs Service which includes, The Support Team for Deaf Children, The Vision Impairment Outreach Team, The Physical Needs Team and the Local Authority Led Resourced Provisions for Children and Young People who are Deaf and Children and Young People with a Vision Impairment.

These teams work collectively to provide information, advice, support, direct teaching and training to ensure that children and young people (CYP), 0 - 25 who are deaf or with a vision impairment, multi-sensory impairment, and physical / medical needs have their needs met.



THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR HARD WORK

We would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your continued hard work this term, it does not go unnoticed and you are all truly appreciated!

We wish you all a relaxing Summer, and hope you all have a lovely, well-deserved break in the holidays!

Children's Sensory and Physical Needs Service

Britannia House (3rd Floor)
Hall Ings
Bradford
BD1 1HX

Phone: 01274 439500
E-mail:
sensoryandphysicalneeds@bradford.gov.uk



To find out about more help and information for families with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) 0-25yrs in the Bradford district, please refer to our Local Offer website where you can find information, advice, support services and activities about SEND all in one place: <https://localoffer.bradford.gov.uk>

You can also sign up to receive a monthly SEND Newsletter at: <https://bit.ly/BfdSENDNewsletter>



Our vision as the STaSS team is:

To offer high quality support for all children through a collaborative approach to provide transformational learning experiences so that children can flourish and make excellent holistic progress and successfully transition to responsible citizens