



Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a very short yet busy half term. It doesn't seem very long since we packed the Christmas tree away and here we are, it's Easter again! In these last five weeks, we have held some very demanding mock examinations in the Centre. We are always astounded by the way our learners dig so deep, manage to come in and put themselves through some of the things they find most difficult. We are immensely proud of them and their significant achievements. The reports coming out this week are a real testament to our young people and their commitment to making progress. Whether it is in completing a piece of artwork, cooking a hot meal, solving equations or determining the fate of Hamlet, we see daily the definite steps forward. The summer term will also focus on exams, the real thing this time! We hope everyone is prepared and ready for the challenge. Luckily, we will have some trips and events that will offer some downtime too. It's always a lively and exciting time at RBAir and hopefully the weather will be a little warmer.

It is a time too, to wish our families a well-deserved break and to thank our staff for all that they do. Chocolate all round, I would say! We also have some staff leavers, Lesley, who is jetting off to live in warmer climes, and Jo who is putting down the Link Mentor mantle for a bit of a break. We are so grateful for their long service and wish them well in their next adventures. They will be missed.

Have a very happy holiday!

Hannah Curry
Head of Centre

Unconditional
Positive Regard

Mutual Respect

Inclusion

Collaboration



Exams

Mock exams have now been completed, marking an important milestone in our learners' preparation. The focus now shifts to the upcoming summer exams, where all their hard work and revision will come together.

Mock exam results will be shared with learners during the week leading up to the Easter holidays. These will be provided either by their subject teacher or their link mentor.

Individual candidate timetables for the summer exams will also be sent to learners and their families in the final week of term before the Easter break. This will ensure everyone has clear, personalised information ahead of the exam period.

If you have any exam-related questions, please do not hesitate to contact:

Gosia Krolak gosia.krolak@rbair.org.uk (Willow Lodge) or

Sam Coles samantha.coles@rbair.org.uk (Danbury) directly.

Academic Reports

You will receive a written academic report this week (the last week of term). Reports will be accessible via the **Parent Portal app** on **Arbor**, following an email notifying you of their availability.

To access the report cards via the **Web browser Parent Portal:**

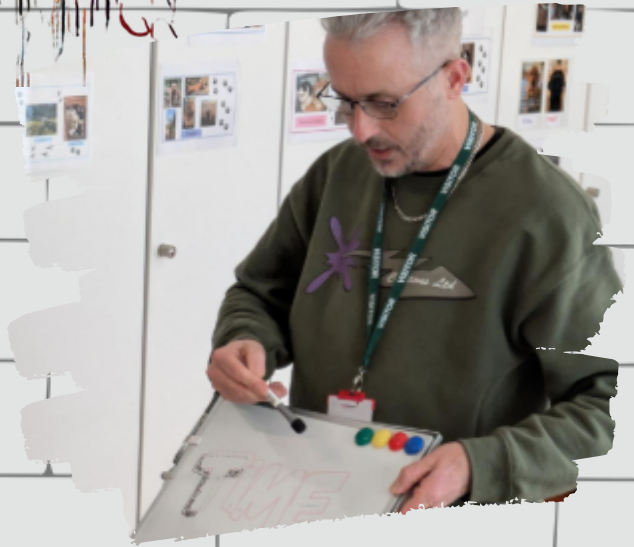
- Click View Student Profile, then go to Report Cards from the left-hand menu.
- The date shows when the report card was released.
- Select the report card, then click Download.
- This will download to your computer as a PDF.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns about your young person's learning sessions, please get in touch, and we will arrange for the relevant teacher to give you a call.



R B A R Enrichment R

GRAFFITI ART



Local street artist, Kilo, recently visited Willow Lodge to explore the evolution of graffiti and street art. Learners discovered the rich history behind this vibrant art form before putting their skills to the test with stylised lettering techniques under Kilo's expert guidance.

During the second session, Kilo returned to lead a hands-on spray-painting workshop, where learners practised new techniques and created their very own custom street art pieces to take home.



Community Lunch

One of our learners, Becky, has been busy organising a community lunch for staff and young people to celebrate the renaming of our Community Room. Becky also designed the new sign for the door, helping to give the space its fresh identity. This room is intended as a safe, welcoming hub where everyone can relax and spend time together. A huge thank you to Becky and the team of young people working alongside her for bringing this event to life!



Anglia Ruskin University visit

On 23rd March, a group of young people visited the Anglia Ruskin University (ARU) campus. As part of Neurodiversity Week, ARU wanted to showcase their inclusive and supportive campus. We were welcomed by Toby, their Community Outreach Officer, who kick-started the event with a presentation on 'Why Go to University?' This was followed by a chat with the Disability and Dyslexia team, and we heard about the well-being and study support available at ARU.

To round the visit off, we had a tour of the campus, led by a current student. We particularly enjoyed seeing the Art Gallery (open to the public – well worth a visit) and student support areas, including a quick peek at the sensory room. Our young people were great ambassadors of RBAir – conducting themselves superbly throughout the trip. We look forward to further opportunities to work with ARU.



Curious Connections:

There's no place like 'Biome'

Currently in Curious Connections we have a Geography focus, and we are exploring weird and wonderful animals around the world and how they have adapted to specific climates and landscapes.



The word 'biome' describes large distinct geographical areas, where animals and plants need to adapt to their surroundings to survive.

One of the first activities we tackled was the identification of different animals and their specific features. We didn't realise how many different species of worms there were and how important they are to our own survival. It certainly turned a few stomachs!

So, let's see if you can identify these animals and what kind of 'biome' they inhabit? Latin names too, please!





PSHE Topics: Summer 1



If you have any concerns or questions about any of the topics we'll be working on, please do not hesitate to contact elaine.beattie@rbair.org.uk, our Head of PSHE. Elaine will be happy to talk to you and guide you through the sessions in more detail.

Year 8: Inclusion and Belonging

- **Coercive Friendships** – exploring the qualities of positive friendships and the risks of coercive friendships
- **Serious and Organised Crime** – identifying and managing the risks associated with involvement in gangs
- **Peer pressure, Exploitation and Knife Crime** – the influence of peer pressure on young people's choices and behaviour
- **Hate Crime** – exploring the crimes targeted at protected characteristics

Year 9: Respectful Relationships

- **Understanding Consent** – what consent means legally and ethically
- **Avoiding Assumptions** – an exploration of the common assumptions related to consent
- **Freedom and Capacity to Consent** – exploring what 'freedom' and 'capacity' mean in different contexts
- **Sharing Sexual Images** – legal and personal repercussions of sending and receiving sexual images

Year 10: Extremism and Radicalisation

- **Valuing Diversity** – diversity in our communities and the importance of celebrating and respecting diversity
- **Gender Equality and Misogyny** – an exploration of the importance of gender equality and the impact of misogyny
- **Internet Subcultures** – an exploration of the ways young people can be drawn into extremist groups
- **Gangs and Media Influence** – the media's perception of gangs and strategies to manage pressurised situations

Year 11: Family Life

- **Modern Families 1** – the laws and regulations around marriage and civil partnerships
- **Modern Families 2** – key differences between legally and non-legally binding relationships
- **Child, Early and Forced Marriage** – the practices and consequences of CEFM
- **Female Genital Mutilation** – the practices and consequences of FGM

Post-16: Respectful Relationships

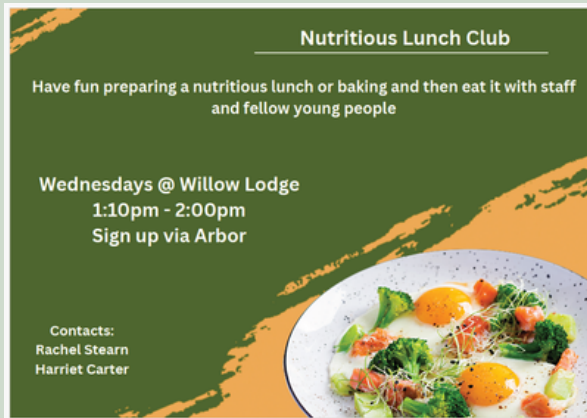
- **What Kind of Person Do I Want to Be?** - how our values impact our decisions and the role of unconscious bias in society
- **Managing Old and Developing New Relationships** – ways to maintain existing relationships and develop new ones
- **Ending and Improving Relationships** – how to better understand what makes healthy relationships
- **Sexual Assault and Violence** – different types of abuse, how and where to seek support and report abuse.

Clubs reminder!

Just a reminder that we have a range of clubs running for our learners, designed to be fun, inclusive, and shaped around their interests.

If your young person hasn't signed up yet, there's still time to get involved! Clubs are a great way to try something new, build confidence, and spend time with others in a relaxed setting.

If you would like more information or help signing up, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



Lunch Club Wednesdays@Willow Lodge 1:10 - 2:00pm

Lunch Club is a relaxed, social space where learners can prepare a nutritious lunch or do some baking. It's a great opportunity to learn practical cooking skills, try new recipes, and enjoy food together with staff and fellow young people.

Sign up via Arbor!



LGBTQ+ Club Wednesdays 1:20 - 14:00pm

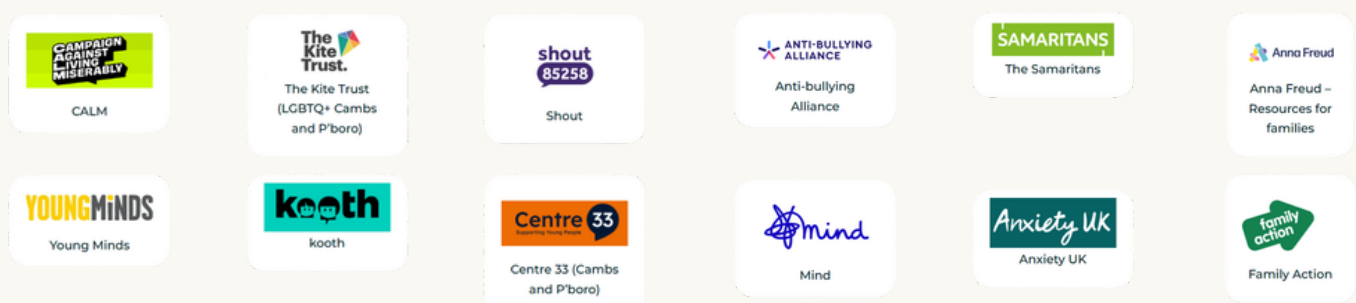
Our LGBTQ+ Club is a safe, welcoming space for LGBTQ+ learners and allies. It's a place to hang out, connect with others, and take part in shared activities in a supportive and inclusive environment.

Let Jackie P
jaclyn.paules@rbair.org.uk or your mentor know if you intend to come or are interested.

Additional Support

We understand that young people and their parent(s)/carer(s) often experience difficult challenges in life, and that finding the right support is not always easy.

Please visit our Additional Support page on our [website](#) for a list of organisations that may be able to help.



Term Dates Reminder

2025-2026

Spring Term 2026

The last day of the Spring Term is Friday 27th March

Summer Term 2026

Monday 13th April – Friday 10th July

Early May Bank Holiday: Monday 4th May

Half Term: Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May

2026 -2027

Autumn Term 2026

Monday 7th September – Friday 11th December

Half Term: Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October

Staff Training: Wednesday 2nd September, Thursday 3rd September, Friday 4th September

Spring Term 2027

Tuesday 5th January – Thursday 25th March

Good Friday Bank Holiday: Friday 26th March

Half Term: Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February

Staff Training: Monday 4th January

Summer Term 2027

Tuesday 13th April – Friday 16th July

Early May Bank Holiday: Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June

Half Term: Monday 12th April

Contact Over the Holidays

Members of the Senior Leadership Team will regularly check their emails, so if there is information to pass on, it will be noted. In an emergency, please follow the guidance given in the Out-of-Office email replies.

We look forward to seeing your young person again online or in person from **Monday 13th April 2026.**