Linden Lodge School
Provider of specialist education since 1903

LLS News

13/11/2026

Dear families



Thank you to everyone for supporting the Children in Need Appeal today. You have helped us to raise £170 so far. If you would still like to donate it's not to late to make a donation on our Just Giving page: https://challenge.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/fundraising/linden-lodge-school?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=dssb-CL&utm_content=MPC&utm_ref=UBS

Our Family Learning Weeks sessions start next week. Please check the schedule in this newsletter. There is no need to book. We look forward to welcoming you to your child/young person's session.

On Friday 20th November you will be receiving your child/young person's Personal Learning Goals (PLGs) for Autumn 2/Spring 1.

Have a lovely weekend

School Travel - TfL's Travel for Life Programme

If you have visited the school this week you may have noticed a new banner on display from TfL's Travel for Life Programme. The school travel programme is designed to inspire young people to travel actively, responsibly and safely. Linden Lodge has been part of the programme since 2024/25 and we are delighted to share the news that we have been awarded silver level accreditation in recognition of all that we do to encourage safe, independent travel for our students.

WE HAVE ACHIEVED

TRAVEL FOR LIFE SILVER

Events and dates to remember

Autumn Term Dates

Family Learning Weeks
Weeks beginning 16th & 23rd November 2026 (please see schedule below)

Last day for students (students finish at 1.30pm)
Thursday 17 December 2026

Planning & Preparation Day 1
Friday 18 December 2026

Please remember that Linden Lodge is a nut free school

School Photographs

You should have received an email containing login details for your child's gallery from the school photographer, Kans Bahara. The email will be from the email address info@inTime-Photography.com

Please check your emails and if you haven't found the email in your email inbox, please check your spam/junk folder.

If you still require login details, or any help with ordering your child's photographs, please email Kans directly at info@inTime-Photography.com

The deadline date to order with Free Delivery to the school only by the end of term, is **Sunday 15th November.**

The photographs will be delivered to the school for your child to bring home by the end of term.

Many thanks,

Kans Bahara
www.inTime-Photography.com
info@InTime-Photography.com

Kindness Award



Isabella for her interactions during a group music therapy session, listening and waiting her turn to play along.

Isabela for choosing to entertain her friends whilst playing the piano.

Star of the Week



Amelia for being a fantastic class rep at the school council meeting and sharing our thoughts and words.

Pietra for demonstrating fantastic engagement in learning this week, especially on the Eye Gaze! Well done, Pietra!

Jay for making amazing progress on the Eye Gaze device! Jay has been using the Eye Gaze to communicate, make choices, tell jokes and play!

Family Learning Weeks

Family Learning Weeks will take place from 16th November until 27th November.
These sessions are a valuable opportunity for families to visit the school, meet other families, and visit the classrooms where appropriate. Families may also be invited to join in with learning activities. This time will also be used to share information or cover topics that may help families to support learning at home.

Date:	Time:	Location:	Department:	Classes:	Focus:
Tues 17th Nov	09:30-11:00	Classrooms and Isobel Centre Training Room	Primary	Ukulele in PE Guitar in Art Harp in Maths	Learning in action with specialist teachers
Tues 17th Nov	10.30-11.50	Isobel Centre Flex Space and music room	Minerva	Bassoon	Social communication
Wed 18th Nov	2:30-3:30	SPACe	Secondary	Oboe Clarinet Kalimba Piano	Assembly
Wed 18th Nov	9.30-11:00	IFC training room and classrooms	Alba Centre	Drum Tabla Gamelan	Communication - AAC and signing
Wed 18th Nov	10:30-11:30	Isobel Centre Flex Space and art classroom	Minerva	Flute	Art
Tues 24th Nov	9.00-11.30	Classrooms and Isobel Centre Flex Space	EYFS	Maracas Tambourine	Routines, meet the team and stay and play
Wed 25th Nov	9:30-11:30	SPACe and Isobel Centre Training room	Minerva	Minerva 1, Minerva 2, Minerva 6th Form	Learning through access
Wed 25th Nov	9.30-10.30	Music Room, East House	Sixth Form	Trombone	Music
Wed 25th Nov	9.45-10.45	Independent Living Skills Room North House	Sixth Form	SF1	Personal Social Development - cooking session
Wed 25th Nov	1.30-2.30	SF2 classroom	Sixth Form	SF2	Maths
Wed 25th Nov	1.30-2.30	SF3 classroom	Sixth Form	SF3	Personal Social Development

Learning @Linden Lodge - Residential

Every year we remember those who have served our country and those who fought in the world wars.

This year young people in residential came together to create textured artwork to add to our display for all to see. We discussed facts about why we use the red poppies to commemorate this event.

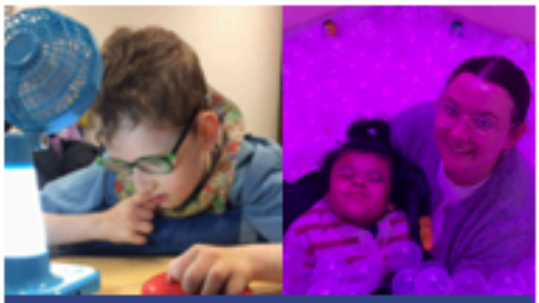


PARTICIPATION CHANGES

Everything!

OT WEEK 2026

The photographs showcase our students taking part in meaningful activities across the school. Participation is at the heart of everything we do, helping students develop skills, build relationships, express themselves and engage in the activities that matter most to them. We are proud to celebrate their achievements and the joy that meaningful participation brings every day!!



Supporting to play



Supporting participation and fine motor skills in specialist lessons



Supporting with hair styling



Supporting in handwashing



Supporting participation on Smart Platform



Supporting independence at mealtimes



Exploring to support self-care routines

AAC AT LINDEN LODGE

WHAT IS AAC?

AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) refers to the different ways people communicate as an alternative to, or alongside, spoken language. This can include gestures, pictures, symbols, signs, or communication devices. AAC helps people express their needs, feelings, and ideas, and provides a voice for those who can't speak or aren't easily understood because everyone has the right to be heard.

TYPES OF AAC

There are many different types of AAC. Some are paper-based, like communication boards or picture cards, and others are electronic, like speech-generating devices or tablets. Here are just a few of the AAC tools we use at Linden Lodge:



Switches



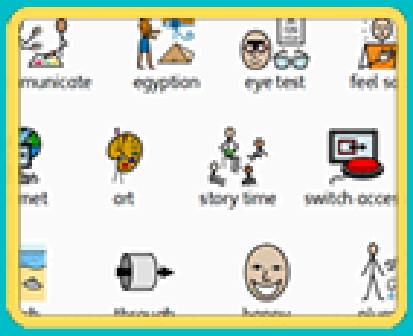
E-Tran Frame



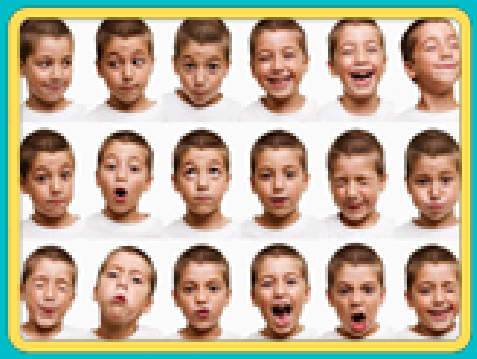
VOCAs



Bristish Sign Language (BSL) & Sign Supported English (SSE)



Picture Symbols



Facial expressions

HOW DO WE USE SUPPORT STUDENTS WHO USE AAC?

1 Model Communication Constantly

We model communication through play, daily routines, and real-life moments, so students can see and practice meaningful ways to express themselves

2 Make It Fun & Meaningful

We use students' interests to make communication meaningful and relevant to their everyday experiences.

3 Be Patient — Give Time to Respond

Communication takes time. We pause and give students space to think, allowing them to respond at their own pace.

4 Use Rich, Varied Language

We expand students' vocabulary and encourage a variety of ways to communicate, including commenting, asking questions, and describing.

5 Ensure AAC Is Always Available & Encourage Exploration

We make sure students always have access to an AAC system, and let them explore it freely. We respond meaningfully to whatever they select

C@LL

SANTA'S GROTTO

JOIN US FOR ARTS & CRAFTS, MUSIC AND DELICIOUS TREATS

SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2:30-4:30PM

This event is for Linden Lodge families and staff
There is no charge for entry or refreshments so if you would like to donate to C@LL please scan the QR code and follow the instructions

Community at Linden Lodge needs your help…

…we need new volunteers to keep our events running

C@LL is the school PTA, we organise events such as Summer Walk and BBQs, Christmas Events, Online Music, Sibling Events, First Aid Training, Educational Webinars and much more….

Now we urgently need a treasurer to manage our modest income and expenditure - this is a vital role that we need for C@LL to continue.

All new committee members are welcome - no experience is needed and you can contribute as much or as little as you can

What will you be doing?
• Helping to decide which activities best serve our community • Supporting event planning by organising refreshments and entertainment
• Submitting fundraising grant requests using existing information • Connecting with other parent/carers and having some fun!

If you're interested in a no-obligation chat about becoming treasurer or a committee member please contact Rebecca at rlotreanor@gmail.com or Jess at jesscrilly@yahoo.co.uk Full training and support is available.



Coffee morning

Friday 4th December, 10.00-12.00pm

Venue: Isobel Centre (Flex Space) or via a Teams link (to be shared nearer to the date)

Topic: We would like to invite you to our first transition coffee morning for this year! Considering your feedback from our last event, we are delighted to have two guest speakers, Dr. Peter Simcock and Dr. Claire Manford, experts in social care, education and deafblindness.
Simon Unger, Educational Psychologist, will also be joining us.

Questionaire:
https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=8fHzK-vjKEKbVcWdx_iH_andpwKRk21Lhtvs5RaUPg5UREIMTVRRUFpFTExKUjNQTzRWUlA0TFNNUi4u

Please confirm your attendance at your earliest convenience by completing the form (link above) or by contacting Lina, one of our Sixth Form teachers, with your questions:
ltsianaka@lindenlodge.org.uk

Noticeboard

CEREBRA
Working wonders for children with brain conditions

Cerebra (formerly MERU) is the charity that provides the free Bugzi Loan Scheme, which is used by pupils at your school. We also offer a range of adapted toys and assistive products through our online shop, with proceeds helping to support the Bugzi service and reach more children who could benefit.

Our adapted toys and assistive products help children with disabilities enjoy play, develop skills and experience greater independence.

This Christmas, choose a gift that makes a real difference.

Thanks and best wishes,
Cerebra Shop Team



