

16-19 Tuition Fund.

Four different projects will be taking place this academic year, to support students in college with their communication and thinking skills, in particular those who have been affected most by interrupted education due to the corona virus pandemic. A grant of £6530 will be received. Two are new sessions and two are services that we have previously partnered with and the students have engaged with developing their communication and thinking skills.

Because of the holistic and sensory curriculum, we found distance learning limited and we are now, due to the generous funding, able to offer additional music therapy and short term projects combining art and music. Students will take part in at least one project, focusing on their communication and thinking skills, as well as having a positive impact on their well-being.

Music therapy: "The person's use of the instruments will naturally reflect their emotional state at that moment. The therapist acknowledges and supports what the person is expressing and supports this with her own music. By playing music freely together the therapist and individual form a therapeutic relationship in which communication and trust are established?" Music therapy is already delivered to some students and it will be expanded with an additional session per week to engage a further number of students over the year. This will reach 8-10 students over a 28 weeks period working either individually or in small groups of up to 3 students.

A second project combining art and communication is being developed, to work with the students who missed out further by being required to shield due to their health needs. This will run over 6 weeks and reach 10-12 students working in two small groups

The third project will involve Gong Therapy, by a specialist trained in holistic therapies that supports relaxation and communication, this will be aimed at students that are more anxious. This will be delivered over 4 sessions to small groups of 4-5 students.

Our final project will involve music and drama, with three experienced practitioners working with a small group of students over a 10-week period.

All of these projects will support our young people to further develop their skills in communication and thinking skills as they prepare for adulthood.