

## Campus update

As half-term approaches we've reached the midway point of the academic year. It's been great to see the progress our Post 16 learners have made so far and we look forward to seeing them continue to learn and grow as they move closer towards their individual goals.

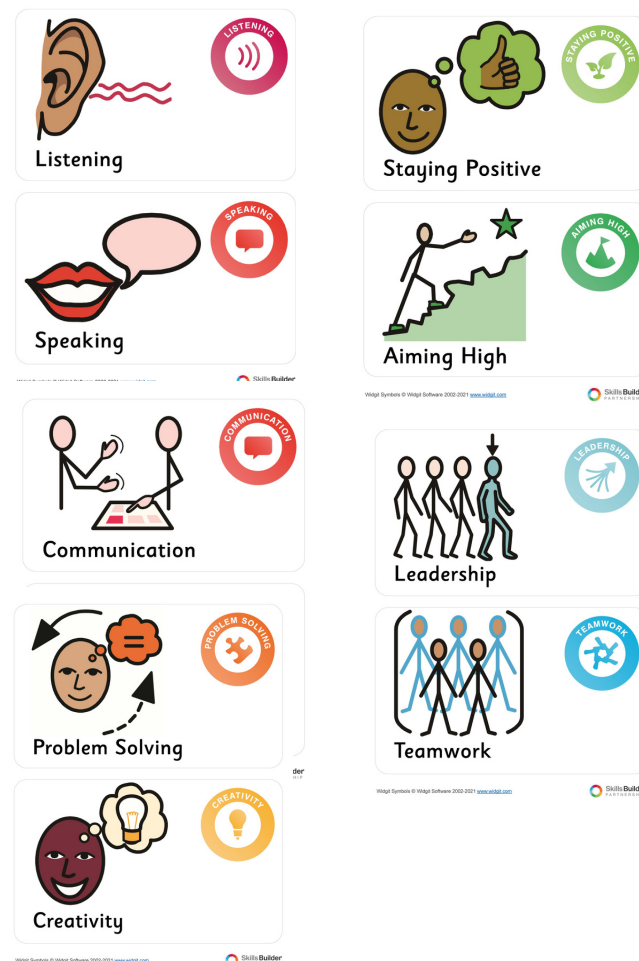
Our #NoLimits campus vision complements the West Lea vision of a world where everyone can flourish. The development of key skills and knowledge is instrumental in preparing for their next steps and we support them with this in a variety of ways.

Work experience opportunities allow our learners to develop their independence skills such as following instructions, problem solving, working in a team and communicating with others. This year we've had Horizon students access placements at a variety of local workplaces including Asda, Jump In, various charity shops, Shoezone, Watford Workshop and BloQs.

When asked about his travel training experience, Tyreece told me he's, "excited now I'm responsible and independent." He explained that Justin taught him, "to walk sensibly, focus on where I'm going and keep my phone away."

Speaking and listening are two really important skills for both work and for life in general as highlighted by our work with the SkillsBuilder partnership. Horizon learners have been busy preparing for and taking part in Speaking & Listening assessments led by English teacher James Kelly with class teams supporting them.

## Skills




## Events and key dates

MONDAY 20TH FEBRUARY

Start of second half of Spring Term

FRIDAY 3RD MARCH

World Book Day

WEDNESDAY 1ST MARCH

Mental Health Awareness Month

MONDAY 6TH MARCH

National Careers Week



Tips when communicating with a young person with additional needs:

- Pause - allow extra time for the young person to process information
- Be aware that they may experience anxiety in social situations and unexpected changes
- Feeling overwhelmed may cause a young person to shutdown
- Be aware of the environment as sensory differences may affect processing
- Keep questions short, be specific and use key words e.g. did you enjoy your lunch?

Our Independent Travel Training (ITT) programme allows learners to access the local community more freely and helps build confidence and self-worth as they integrate more fully into society. Our travel trainers Justin and Sean have supported many students to become independent travellers.

