

Welcome to the SEND newsletter for the beginning of December, we are rapidly approaching the end of term so ensure you contact myself in regard to any queries or information you require surrounding your child and their educational needs.

This week in City Academy:

Attendance Update

Attendance for students with SEND at City Academy continues to be strong and is currently at **89.46% against a National average of 90.5%**. Especially as we head towards the holidays it is vital that you ensure that students are attending every day.

Year 10 Parents Evening 4th December 2025

Parents Evening was held yesterday evening and was a real success for students with positive and productive messages shared with Students and a renewed focus on their GCSE Journey. Imran visited from South and City College to begin the vital conversations regarding transition into college for our KS4 students.

If you have any questions regarding a Year 10 student and their SEND needs, please do not hesitate to contact myself or the Head of Year, Mr Yeomans.

Lived Experience Survey - SEND

Birmingham council wants to understand the lived experience in Birmingham and want to hear from young people and parent carers of children with SEND.

Two new Lived Experience Surveys are open on Birmingham's Local Offer, one for young people with SEND and one for parent carers of children and young people with SEND.

For young people:

We want to know what life is like for them in Birmingham, at school, at home, or in their community to get a sense of how they're feeling and what matters most to them.

For parent carers:

We want to hear about your experiences of support and services for child or young person. Your insight helps us understand what families are experiencing and how things could be better.

Please share these links with the families you work with:

- [Lived Experience Survey for Young People](#)
- [Lived Experience Survey for Parent Carers](#)

The surveys are multiple-choice and hopefully won't take up too much of their time, but the feedback will make a big difference to improving services for children, young people, and families across Birmingham. The surveys close on the 31st December 2025

If anyone has questions or needs support completing a survey, they can contact localoffer@birmingham.gov.uk

Secondary DLD (Developmental Learning Delay) Together Course (Afasic & NPLIC)

For parents and carers of children with Developmental Language Disorder (DLD):

- **Online follow-up:** Thursday 4 December, 9:15am – 10:45am (Microsoft Teams)

Register here: <https://forms.office.com/e/m8We1pj7XW>

For support: kate.starr@birmingham.gov.uk

CAT PAC Autism Parent Awareness Course

For parents and carers of children with autism or on the neurodevelopmental assessment pathway:

To register, email: A2EGeneral@birmingham.gov.uk

Subject: Secondary CAT PAC Online – Autumn 2025

Include your name, your child's name, school and CAT worker (if known).

ADHD Awareness Course – Online support for suspected or diagnosed children with ADHD

These courses are *free* for families in Birmingham.

Children do not need to have already received the diagnosis - we work with families who are on the assessment pathway as well.

The courses are **online**, 90 minutes a week for six weeks and have day and evening sessions.

They will be running on:

Wednesdays 10 - 11.30am starting Wednesday, January 7th Register [HERE](#)

Thursdays 7 - 8.30pm starting Thursday January 8th Register [HERE](#)

Once you have submitted your registration, you will receive a confirmation email. Please check junk email as it may land in there and has important information about the Zoom link.

REGISTRATION CLOSES AT 5 PM ON FRIDAY 2nd JANUARY

Accessible Autism information (with Translations)

Autism or ASC (Autistic Spectrum Condition) affects 1 in 100 people and as much as 700,000 people in the UK alone. Some information online can often be confusing or even misleading. Autism UK has launched a website helping clarify and explain the condition, symptoms and how you can support. The website is found below:

<https://www.autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/what-is-autism#>

Additionally, the website can easily translate into a variety of languages if you need assistance.

Further Information and Contact

If you have concerns about your child's provision, please email myself at
SParkes@corecity.academy

You may also contact my line manager Mrs Patel, Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion and Safeguarding.

Thank you for your continued support. Together we are building a strong and inclusive community where every student feels confident, secure, and ready to succeed.

Best wishes
Mr Parkes



SENDCo, City Academy