

**Spring Term 2023**  
**Update and New Projects**






**Happy New Year!**

I hope you have all had a good start to the term and enjoyed the Christmas break. Thank you to the All About Us groups that took the time to look at the projects I sent in September.

**All About Us Logo**

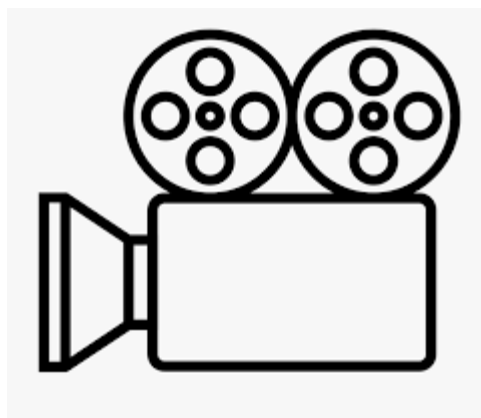
I hope you like the logo. Thank you to those of you who discussed this at your meetings and forwarded your votes. I am pleased to announce the winner of the logo vote is Logo 1. The results of the voting were as follows:

	 <b>LOGO 1</b>	 <b>LOGO 2</b>	 <b>LOGO 3</b>
<b>Waverley School</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>West Lea School</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Cheviots</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total votes</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>

I will be making sure that we use this “brand” on all our materials and there will be badges for everyone coming soon.

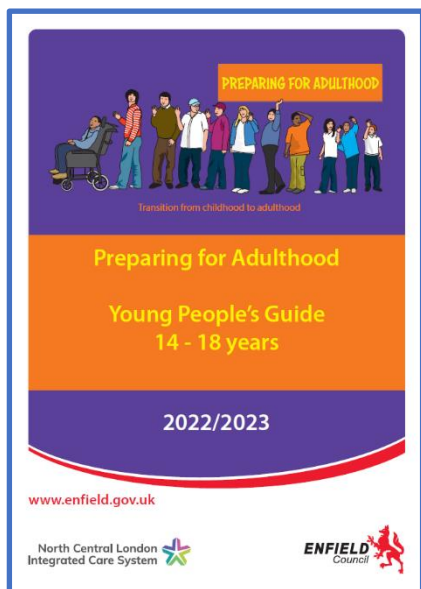
## All About Us Video

Look out for the video that will be launched soon showing the West Lea and Waverley All About Us meetings and what the students think about being involved with All About Us, and the importance of children and young people's voice. We will be using this video on our website called the Local Offer to encourage more schools and young people to get involved with All About Us. I had the privilege of attending the West Lea meeting and it was great to see a group of young people passionate about young people's voice.

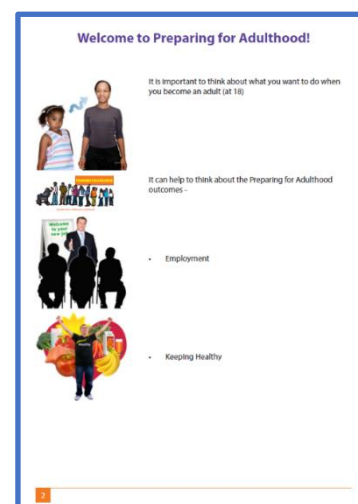


We are really excited that students from the Highlands Hearing Impairment Resource Base will be working with us to translate the video to BSL.

## Preparing for Adulthood – Easy Read Information



One of last term's projects was to give feedback on the Preparing for Adulthood Young People's Guide. West Lea students discussed this at their meeting. Those present found the information helpful to think about what they would do when they became adults. The particularly liked the easy read format.



The document is now available on the [Local Offer](#) for all young people and their families to access. Well done everyone.

Don't forget to tell all your friends about the document too!

## NEW PROJECT

### **Involving children and young people in appointing Children's Social Care Staff**

Some of you may have a Social Worker. Children's Social Workers work with Children and Young People to make sure they are safe and happy. They spend time with Children and Young People to better understand their lives and experiences. It is important that Social Workers find out what is important to Children, Young People and their families so they can help them access the support they need. Social Workers should also support Children and Young People to help them have their voices heard with other professionals. Children and Young People might have a Social Worker for different reasons such as:

- Something is happening that makes the Child or Young Person feel unsafe
- Support might be needed to help them access things that would improve their lives, for example, accessing activities or playschemes
- Advice is needed about important things such as what happens when Young People turn 18 and become adults

You might find this [easy read guide](#) helps you understand better how Social Workers work with and support children and young people with a learning disability.

We want to make sure that when we recruit someone to be a Children's Social Worker they have the right skills and qualities to do the job well, and who better to help with that children and young people themselves.

Please could you:

- Discuss and agree 1 or 2 questions that you would like to ask a Social Worker who is being interviewed to work with children and young people who have special needs, autism and/or a learning disability, and what you think the ideal answer would be. The [Easy Read guide](#) may help you to think about the questions you would like to ask.
- Discuss whether any of you would like to have further training so that in the future some of you could be part of the interview panel.

Please let me know the outcome of your discussions and any questions you would like to see included in our interviews with Social Worker. Please send these to me by the end of the Spring Term 2023.

**Finally .....**

**TELL US**

We want to hear from you too. So perhaps when you have your next All About Us meeting you might like to think about things you would like to see changed or done differently, or just tell us about things that you really like.

Your views are important to us, and help us to make things better.

Thanks for all your hard work and support.

Sarah