

### **Parent Communication 10/07/2026**

Dear Parents / Carers,

It is obvious what the message this week is going to be, as SAIL has had its first ever Ofsted inspection. This was a schedule 5 inspection, a full inspection under the new framework that was issued from September 2025. It was extremely pleasing to see that this inspection was carried out by three inspectors, all of whom have significant experience in education and in specialist education. All three have also been leaders in special schools and it was noticeable that they were comfortable around our students (or your children!) and that courtesy was reciprocated.

I am not able to tell you of the results of the inspection for some time. The report has to be written and submitted for checking to Ofsted quality control, and to agree the judgements as written (approx 3 working weeks) before being submitted to the head / trust for fact checking at our end (5 working days). This is education and that means that the summer holidays are not recognised as working days. Being this close to the end of term, it is exceedingly unlikely that we will be able to publish the report before the summer holidays.

However, I can inform you of the following:

- Students. The inspectors could not speak highly enough of the students and how courteous and polite they were. One inspector met with different groups of students with no SAIL adult support and stated how articulate the students were (and informed that the staff at SAIL were always there to listen, and that they enjoyed coming to a school where they were valued).
- Parents. Thank you so much for the positive and constructive feedback given to Ofsted. They truly value this as it enables them to build a full picture of the school, what is working effectively and where there may be some challenges.
- The new judgements for Ofsted are: Exceptional; Strong Standard; Expected Standard; Needs Attention; Urgent Improvement.
- SAIL was inspected under the following areas: Safeguarding; Inclusion; Curriculum & Teaching; Achievement; Attendance & Behaviour; Personal Development & Wellbeing; Leadership & Governance.
- When the report is published please take time to read it, the inspectors made significant positive comments across all phases and stated they would aim to reflect this in the report.
- As current (interim) Head of School, I am really pleased with the initial gradings of SAIL. It reflects the huge improvements since Sept 2024 (simply a non-negotiable for any group of students, parents and staff). We as

leaders acknowledge there are still areas to work on and would assure you that this process has started already.

- Alternate Provisions. We use quite a few here at SAIL, and the inspectors called a significant number to see how AP is used by school and how effective it is. One inspector drove out to our own AP (in Nomansland) to meet the students we take there each week and really enjoyed a great interaction with one of our students who was able to say how this provision had helped them.
- Local Authorities (we have students from three). One inspector took the time to call the authorities to assess how the school has expanded over time and how effective the school is at working with local authorities to meet the need of some students with very significant needs. The authority stated how pleased they were with the input from the staff at SAIL and the destinations of our leavers when moving to post 16.

As stated, I am not able to state the results and please do not ask staff at school to divulge the results as this can put them in a compromising position. What I can say however is that I (as the interim head of school), the SLT and the Trust are extremely pleased with the report and feel it is a true reflection of the journey the school has made so far as well as the knowledge that we will not rest on our laurels and continue to improve in the future.

### PTA Update

We would like to extend our sincere thanks for the generous donations received for the Schools Waves PTA Jumble Sale. Your support is greatly appreciated and helps make these events a success.

Children's Fun Day – 20th July – **please see the poster attached.**

We are pleased to announce that our Children's Fun Day will be held on 20th July. Tickets will be available to purchase from Monday and are priced at:

- 25p per ticket
- 5 tickets for £1.00

Children may use a maximum of 20 merits towards activities.

We are also awaiting confirmation from a face painter who may be attending the event. If confirmed, face painting will be available at a cost of £2.00 per child.

### RRS winners this week

Angelfish – Nova

Turtle – Tyler

Starfish – Ted

Seahorse – Harry

Inspire A – Ethan

Inspire B – James

Inspire C – Erik

7A – Chris

7B – Logan

7C – Bella

8A – Charlie

8B – Georgia

8C – Tyler

9A – Rosie

9B – Eljo

10A – Olivia

10B – Luke

11A – Jody

### Key Dates, events and celebrations

We will be updating these further over the next couple of weeks – so please keep checking.

### **Term 6**

July 2026

- **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July-** PTA Jumble Sale
- **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July-** PTA Fun day
- **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Last Day of term**

Dan Goldstraw

Headteacher (Interim)

SAIL Academy