



Virtual School Sensory Support News update



VSSS activities

I hope that you are all looking forward to an extra long Bank Holiday during the half term break, I hope the weather is kind and allows us to enjoy some sunshine. As we progress through the Summer Term, I am pleased to say a range of activities are being planned, or have been delivered, by VSSS. As usual, we are very grateful to the staff at Gressenhall Museum who recently hosted an event to support the transition to high school for some children. There is more information about this below.

As always, please do contact me if you want to discuss anything to do with VSSS, at kate.stocks@norfolk.gov.uk.

Best wishes, Kate



Gressenhall transition activity afternoon

On April 30th a group of Year 6, 7 and 8 pupils joined us at Gressenhall. This was an opportunity to talk about the move to High School, make new friends, listen to a story around a campfire in the woods and eat toasted marshmallows! Many thanks to the Gressenhall staff who made this possible 😊

The Year 7 and 8 pupils talked about 'High school – the best bits' and these included

'Lots of school clubs – art club, drama club and athletics'

'You make loads of new friends'

'The food is better, you can choose what you want'

'In science there are cooler experiments – you get to use a Bunsen burner'

'Going on the bus'

The Year 6's asked the older pupils how they had managed different situations, such as when

'People ask me about my implant?'

'How do I find my way around what about if I get lost?'

'What do I do when it is too loud in the classroom?'

'Are there bullies....what did you do?'

Observing the young people chatting and working together to complete the activities in the woods was a pleasure to see. For the Year 6 children this session will have answered some of their questions about High School and help them to look forward to the next stage of their schooling. The overall feedback was very positive, the young people were keen to put forward suggestions for future events (Disneyland is possibly a little ambitious!) so watch this space 😊😊



BSL option for Newsround

We are delighted to learn that there is now a BSL option for Newsround. Please use this link to explore it further. Home - [Home - CBBC Newsround](#)



Hab Hacks - Technology

Technology is becoming a huge part of our lives and whether we like it or not, we need to embrace it to keep up.

There are many free Apps that have been developed for people with vision impairment. The Hab team at VSSS joined by some willing CYPVI have been getting our heads around which ones might be worth trying out.

Be My Eyes connects you with a community of volunteers who are ready at the end of a video call to 'lend you their eyesight' We have tried this out when matching an outfit, shopping for specific items in a Supermarket and reading a menu in a restaurant. I can't say it's 100% perfect but definitely useful if you can get a good Wi-Fi connection.

Moovit enables you to track public transport, making sure you get on the right bus. It speaks to you so you never miss your bus stop. This has proved useful to many of our independent CYP, giving them added confidence when travelling alone.

Soundscape and Way finder are GPS navigation apps that will allow you to track a walking route, adding landmarks that are purposeful to you. It will inform you which shops

are around you but may not tell you which shop you are directly outside; they are useful for guidance but not perfect.

TapTapSee enables you to take a photograph of everyday items and the App will give you either a computer generated or human description of what it sees, this one can be a lot of fun!

Seeing AI this will give you lots of information of what's around you, and will give you an audible description. It needs to access your camera to tell you what and who it sees; just a tip...if you smile into the camera when you are asking it to recognise you, it will make you five years younger! Always a bonus!

These are just a few Apps that are out there, they are all free so worth trying out. For more information and advice please contact georgina.rose@norfolk.gov.uk

[Follow on Twitter](#) [Like on Facebook](#)

Copyright © 2022 Norfolk County Council, All rights reserved.

[Unsubscribe](#)