

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

July 2026

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Phoenix School (Sheffield), and Forestwood (Bury) are DfE registered special schools, providing education for young people admitted to their co-located hospital services.

Our schools are regulated by OFSTED you can read their last inspection via the websites.

[Forestwood School](#)

[Phoenix School](#)

Recognition

Forestwood have had some lovely feedback from two of our Young People:-

"Thank you all so much for everything you have done, I really appreciate it. Thanks for not giving up on me when I was struggling.....

.....Take care of yourselves guys — your support means more than you could ever imagine, so thank you."

"I also want to thank you and everyone at education. You all will be happy to know I locked in and I'm now an educational weapon, I got my predicted GCSE's grades and English is the highest!!..... I wouldn't have been able to catch up so quickly and go back to mainstream without you guys at education so thank you endlessly"

Phoenix have also received the following from a Young Person:-

"Thank you for always motivating me in my learning and making school fun"

What we've been up to

Exam season came to a close in June for those young people admitted into our care who are sitting their GCSEs.



Throughout the academic year we always support and encourage the young people to work towards and achieve awards.

These awards include Functional Skills, AQA Unit Awards as well as NCFE, but specifically during May and June, we also host GCSE's and A-Levels for young people entered by their community school and those entered by us.

This year, across our 2 schools, 10 students sat exams with us during their admission period, covering an impressive total of 12 different subjects across a range of levels.

Their commitment and determination were evident throughout the season, with pupils tackling maths, English, all three sciences, geography, history, Spanish (including listening), and several additional subjects.

Each student approached their exams with maturity and focus, drawing on the support and expertise available within the school.

Of course, to facilitate these exams requires careful planning, organising and much collaboration by our Exam Officers (Joanne at Forestwood and Sara at Phoenix) with our education staff, MDT, community schools, parents/carers and the multiple awarding bodies. Due to the nature of our setting, we often need to take immediate action when a young person is admitted into our care just before, or even during the exam season, to ensure that the process is as efficient as possible.

Thank you to everyone involved in supporting the young people admitted into our care with their exams - not just during the formal exam series, but throughout the academic year.

Special mention goes to Sara, our new exams officer, who handled her first exam series brilliantly and Joanne, who stepped in with her 'can do attitude' to make sure all young people due to sit exams at Forestwood could do so. Both displayed great organisation skills and attention to detail to ensure everything ran smoothly.

This month, students from both Forestwood School and Phoenix School immersed themselves in the fascinating world of **forensic science through dynamic, hands-on workshops delivered by Think Forensic.**

The sessions brought real-life investigative techniques into the classroom, offering young people an exciting opportunity to step into the shoes of professional crime scene investigators.

At Forestwood, students worked methodically through a simulated crime scene involving a stolen laptop.

They examined evidence, analysed clues, and applied scientific reasoning to identify the suspect. The workshop introduced key forensic techniques such as fingerprint collection and evidence analysis, encouraging students to ask questions, share ideas, and collaborate as a team.



Meanwhile, at Phoenix School, students were guided by a visiting Forensic Anthropologist and Crime Scene Manager who led a highly interactive programme.

Learners took fingerprints, created footprint casts, assessed a mock crime scene, and used authentic forensic equipment to solve a case.

They also explored advancements in DNA technology, handwriting analysis, and digital forensics, even donning full crime scene attire to experience the role more fully.



Under the microscope, students examined the scientific structure of different materials and discussed a wide range of career pathways within forensic science.

Across both schools, the workshops provided a powerful blend of science, problem-solving, and real-world application. Students demonstrated excellent engagement, asked thoughtful questions, and embraced the challenge of investigative thinking.

Well done to all students who took part!

To support re-engagement with education, at Phoenix pupils have been exploring a range of **paint-by-numbers activities**—each choosing a piece that reflects their interests and offers just the right level of challenge.

This approach sparked some fantastic moments of creativity and self-motivation.

One of our young people recently completed a wonderfully quirky piece: a frog wearing glasses.



Not only was the final painting a huge success, the young person shared that painting gave them space to focus, relax, and enjoy working at their own pace.

Their determination to finish the entire piece paid off, and the completed artwork is now proudly displayed in their room.

It's been great to see how these creative tasks are helping pupils reconnect with learning, build confidence, and take pride in their achievements. More masterpieces are already underway!

On Friday 10th July, the CAMHS services at Cygnets Hospital Bury celebrated in style with the annual Forestwood Prom. This wonderful event was jointly organised by the Occupational Therapy and Activity Team, bringing together young people from across all wards for an



unforgettable afternoon of celebration.

The young people played a key role in planning the event, working alongside the planning committee to develop this year's enchanting Fairy-Tale Wonderland theme. Their ideas helped shape every aspect of the prom, creating a truly special occasion that reflected their interests and creativity.



In the lead-up to the event, there was plenty of excitement as young people enjoyed having their hair styled, make-up applied, and choosing their prom dresses and outfits for the big celebration.

Everyone looked fantastic and took great pride in preparing for this memorable occasion.

The venue was transformed with sparkling lights and decorations, creating a magical atmosphere.

The afternoon featured music, dancing, a delicious buffet, a photo booth, face painting and, most importantly, the opportunity for young people to come together and enjoy themselves in a positive way.



A huge thank you goes to everyone who contributed to making the Prom possible, especially the young people whose enthusiasm and ideas helped create such a spectacular event.

The academic year at Forestwood School came to a close with a **Celebration of Achievement Event**, recognising the hard work, progress and positive attitudes demonstrated by students throughout the term.

The event provided an opportunity for students to celebrate their successes while enjoying a range of fun and engaging activities with their peers.

A highlight of the day was the Attendance and Achievement Raffle. Throughout the previous week, students

earned raffle tickets in recognition of their attendance and achievements. As an additional reward, a £10 Starbucks voucher was presented to the highest attender on each of the school's four wards.

The raffle also provided a practical demonstration of the concept of probability. Students quickly discovered that the more tickets they had earned, the greater their chance of winning. Tickets were drawn for a variety of prizes, including bubble tea kits, mindfulness colouring books and Haribo sweets, creating plenty of excitement.



Students also enjoyed a range of team games with the ever-popular game of Mafia proving to be a firm favourite once again.



The competitive spirit continued with the Big General Knowledge Quiz, which included questions linked to key learning points from across the term, picture rounds (name the music star child) and music questions added extra challenge and fun, with students enthusiastically putting their knowledge to the test.

The celebration concluded in style with **karaoke and dancing**, providing a lively and joyful end to a successful academic year.