



'On the Ball' family learning through sport starts on 19<sup>th</sup> April for parents. Active learning places will be allocated by 21 April. Richmond Adult Community College rated 'On the Ball' as 'Outstanding.' Contact A-a now for information on how to apply.

# Act-attain News

Supporting children with sensory and communication needs 14 March 2016

## Sensory diets and inclusion strategies

### A-a inset is 'inspirational' say teaching staff & parents

Teaching staff from across Richmond and Kingston have attended inset training on sensory needs led by Action-attainment (A-a) at Waldegrave, Nelson and Barnes Primary Schools. A-a provided the same workshop at Nelson Primary to 50 parents whose children attend Twickenham schools. A-a explained how their sensory environment affects some children's learning and inclusion, but simple strategies from a programme called 'Alert' can be used to develop concentration. Feedback identified that 85% of teaching staff left with action plans to support pupils. For more information on A-a's inset work:

<http://www.action-attainment.com>



*Our secondary transition workshops for parents of Y3-Y6 pupils are planned again for Autumn 2016*

## Feedback

A-a's sensory workshops include Tanya Van Dalen, Occupational Therapist and Tom Silver, who has studied and used the 'Alert' programme from school into university. Teachers and parents valued the speakers' first hand experience of using 'Alert.' "Mind blowing!" a parent

## 'On the Ball' 2016 booking now!

Richmond families who have children aged 5-11 with sensory or communication needs can now apply for places on 'On the Ball' 2016. This is an innovative programme of parent and family learning that identifies strategies to support children's inclusion in activities at school, home and leisure - and then tries them out.

'On the Ball' starts with a parent workshop that explains the impact of sensory and communication needs on behaviour and learning. It goes on to include 10 active learning sessions held at Palewell Park, East Sheen, on Saturday mornings between April and July. Places in these 10 sessions are allocated to families where children have similar levels of ability and need. A final workshop is held at the end of the course to look at issues raised by parents who participated in the active learning sessions with their children.

On the Ball is fun. It is free of charge and is funded by Barnes Workhouse, Richmond Parish Lands, and Richmond's Community Learning programme.

**Full information is available on line at:**

<http://www.action-attainment.com/on-the-ball-sign-up-now/>



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## Fun in the Sun

Last summer 14 teenagers with communication needs joined Fun in the Sun (FitS), a programme of water and ball sports run at Brentford Canal, on the Thames and at Rocks Lane Tennis Football Centre. Brentford FCCST ran the activities with A-a, which were part funded by Three Guineas Trust.

We hope to run FitS again during the week of 25<sup>th</sup> July, at the start of the summer holidays and include 5-11 year olds this year. Pencil in the date, register your interest with us and keep an eye out for news on the A-a website - places book up fast:

<http://www.action-attainment.com/summer-sport-sign-up-for-2016/>



*Partnership working supports  
transitions*

## Transition Talks

In 2015 A-a ran a series of parent and professional talks to aid planning for transitions - typically a difficult time for young people with communication needs. Planning for secondary school covered how reports by occupational or speech and language therapists alongside educational psychologists give us key information for use in school. Transition to adulthood talks brought together experts in housing, employment and powers of attorney to discuss how parents can support young people's independence. Richmond Philanthropic Society supported this work in 2014 and 2015. The training is planned for 2016 and dates will be announced if funding is granted.

<http://www.action-attainment.com/preparing-for-secondary-school-sign-up-for-2016/>