

Bromley Mencap Training Centre Half Term Newsletter

October 2025

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Incorporating Bromley Scope

End of Term Highlights

It's hard to believe we're already at half term. In September we moved into our new Training Centre on Masons Hill, Bromley. We've settled in well and are making the most of the new space. Learners are building strong friendships and working confidently with our staff team.

We also saw two new staff members join our team. Laura-Louise Acock who is our new Learner Enrichment and Administrator and George Cantwell who is our new Learning Support Assistant. Find out more about them on page 2!

September Highlights

On Monday 29 September, Jonathan Andrews the Mayor of Bromley officially opened our training centre. We had a great day showing the Mayor around our facility, telling him about the work that happens and listening to speeches. We also enjoyed showing our family and friends around the centre as part of this celebration.

We have also started our accredited Maths and English training which will see learners gain L1 OCN qualifications in Maths and English Reading and Writing. This is a great opportunity for us to add to our portfolio of accredited qualifications.

October Highlights

October has been a short month for our training centre, but we have still managed to pack so much in.

We watched a documentary called "Dyslexia Revolution" by Jamie Oliver as part of National Dyslexia Week. We learnt about Diwali and celebrated by making traditional sweets and door hangers. In our lessons we have also written letters to thank the Mayor of Bromley for his visit to our centre. We have thought about designing our ideal garden, learnt about different parts of a seed, healthy lifestyles and local tourist destinations in and around Bromley.

We also visited The Lodge in Norman Park, where we had a great time meeting some of the staff, seeing the garden and the highlight of our visit was riding the bikes around the park.



We continue to be supported by the Jack Petchey Foundation. This helps with purchasing much-needed resources for the Training Centre and funding trips.



We are regulated by Ofsted.



A huge thank you to the Mayor of Bromley for opening our new building on 29th September 2025.



If you have any safeguarding or well-being concerns, please contact Mark:
Email: mark.murphy@bromleymencap.org
Phone: 07745 647 006

Visit from the Mayor of Bromley

Cllr Jonathan Andrews, Mayor of Bromley, opened our new Training Centre on 29 September 2025.



Meet George our Learning Support Assistant

George joined us in September 2025 as our new Learning Support Assistant. Here are a few facts about George.

- He is a Manchester United fan.
- He has lived in Spain, France and Portugal.
- He has worked at or covered in all of the Mencap day centres.
- He used to work with students at My Time, Bromley Library and Bromley Football Club.



Meet Laura our Learner Enrichment and Administrator

Laura joined us in September 2025 as our new Learner Enrichment and Administrator. Here are a few facts about Laura.

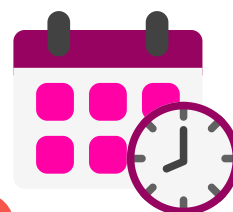
- Laura spent 10 years living in New Zealand.
- Laura loves all kinds of music and can be found listening to Christmas music most of the year.
- Laura has two dogs. The first is a 13-year-old Bearded Collie-Poodle cross she brought home from New Zealand, named Houdini for his escape-artist skills. The second is Obi, a three-year-old Border Collie-Poodle cross who loves sticks twice his size.
- Laura also loves to read, play the piano and collect and paint Warhammer figures. She often uses her models as part of fundraising activities related to mental health.

Reminders

Please let us know by 9:30 if the learners are unwell or going to be late.
Please email training.centre@bromleymencap.com

Half Term Monday 20th October 2025 - Monday 3rd November 2025.

Learning resumes Monday 3rd November 2025



What Our Learners Have To Say

"I really like the teachers, they are very supportive and caring. Everyone here is really friendly. I think the small classes are great."

Charlie

"I like the teachers because they are funny and they make the lessons entertaining. We love having Benji (the support dog) here too."

Hadi



We spoke to some of our learners about what they thought of the training centre.

Here's what they had to say...

"Everyone on the staff is really easy to talk too."

Johnny

"The classes are calmer and smaller. The teachers are funny, friendly and approachable."

Emi

"I think the lessons are easier and better than at college."

Jeremy

"I enjoy the lessons, they are really fun. I love having Benji here too."

Emily

Visit to The Lodge

The learners visited the Lodge at Norman Park to see their outdoor horticulture and bike repair/loan facilities. Learners enjoyed a hot drink and cycle around the park.



Reminder of our Term Dates

Bromley Mencap Training Centre Term Dates and Delivery Days 2025/2026

The Training Centre term dates for the academic year 2025/2026 are as follows:

Term	Dates
Autumn 2025	Monday 15 th September to Wednesday 15 th October Half Term - Monday 20th October to Friday 31st October Monday 3 rd November to Tuesday 16 th December
	Christmas Break
Spring 2026	Tuesday 6 th January to Wednesday 11 th February Half Term -Monday 16th February to Friday 20th January Monday 23 rd February to Wednesday 1 st April
	Easter Break (Good Friday 3 rd April, Easter Monday 6 th April)
Summer 2026	Tuesday 21 st April to Wednesday 20 th May Half Term - Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May Monday 1 st June to Tuesday 7 th July

Staff Personal Development Days

Wednesday 17th December

Monday 5th January

Monday 20th April

Wednesday 8th July

The delivery days are Monday to Wednesday - Wednesday is a half day