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**Humber
Learning
Consortium**

Passionate about learning

THIS-ABILITY OFFICIALLY OPEN ALLOTMENT AND LAUNCH NEW 'COOK WITH ABILITY' PROJECT!...

After lots of very hard work, on Wednesday 9th March 2022 the This-Ability team officially opened their Allotment and also launched their new Cook with Ability project.

The weather was ok for the time of year (although the wind nearly blew the gazebo away!) but at least it wasn't raining or snowing. We didn't know how many people were going to turn up as a general invite was scattered around but we were pleasantly surprised when at least 50 learners, providers and others arrived to share the day.



The day started with an opening speech from Humber Learning Consortium's Deputy CEO Paul Rands, in which he thanked Ricky Newton from Working for Health for donating the allotment space, Men in Sheds for making two wonderful benches, three This-Ability learners Sam, Jordan and Alex (who moved 15 tonnes of soil!) and the This-Ability Team and other members of HLC for all their hard work



and effort into making the space what it is today (with special thanks to Darren Grannon and Elisha Allen). Thanks was also given to all the learners who entered the allotment sign competition and although the competition had been tough to judge, he presented a prize to the winner, Callum Brown and then unveiled the sign which has been proudly displayed at the front of the allotment. We also unveiled the Barbara Haigh plaque on the shed which had been donated from the Barbara Haigh fund, a fund that was set up in memory of a much-loved HLC colleague (for more information about the fund please contact HLC). The speech was then concluded with Paul planting a Fig Tree (twig) which he had kindly donated.



There were several activities through the morning such as 'Guess the Vegetables', planting seeds, eating flapjack and plant pot cupcakes, and lots of tea/coffee drinking and general chit chat.

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PROJECT AIMS TO BUILD CONFIDENCE AND RESILIENCE BY TEACHING LEARNERS ABOUT GROWING FOOD AND HOW THEY CAN COOK IT....

There were displays on how and when to plant certain fruit and vegetables and when to harvest them and there was also a display showing the journey of the allotment from its early 'jungle' days to the final product. The This-Ability mentors plan to take learners to the allotment for sessions on resilience, confidence, and motivation etc. whilst also teaching them about food, how it is grown and how to cook it. They also plan to build an insect house, butterfly house and bird boxes.



We had a sign-up station for our new project called Cook with Ability. The idea for project came during lockdown when we decided to supply learners with food hampers. Although what was quickly realised was that there were quite a few learners that didn't know how to cook, so we had to supply them with ready to eat options instead (which isn't always the healthiest). Cook with Ability was then



created to address the lack of cooking knowledge and is open to all This-Ability learners, past and present who would like to learn to cook. Learners that sign up will be initially supplied with a start-up box which contains basic store cupboard ingredients such as salt, pepper, oxa etc. and then each month they will receive a recipe card, instructions on how to cook it along with all the ingredients too. For more information, please contact Elisha Elisha.allen@hlc-vol.org



All in all, the day was a fantastic success, and we think that we may just have inspired a few people to start growing their own! The This-Ability team would like to thank each and every one who has helped them along the way to create the wonderful space for staff and learners to enjoy and learn.



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DELI ENTREPRENEURS FROM HULL SELECTED FOR NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOLLOWING CLLD SUPPORT...

Marla's Deli founders and Hull Community Led Local Development (CLLD) programme participants Sarah Cutler and Mark Skillen have been chosen by the British Library National Network of Business & IP Centres to represent our region.

They have been featured in the British Library publicity campaign across the country, promoting the work of the Business and IP Centre network.

Sarah and Mark, accessed the CLLD Business Support programme through the Hull's centre last year. They received one to one support from the team to develop their business including advice to access funding to purchase an EPOS system, legal guidance on trademarks and advice about branding.

You can hear all about their story here...[LINK](#)



SPRINGBOARD PARTNER HELPS CELEBRATE NEURODIVERSITY THROUGH DESIGN COMPETITION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE...

To raise awareness of Neurodiversity and neuro diverse learning disabilities, one of our partners, Hull City Council, the John Cracknell Youth Enterprise Bank launched an image competition for young people across Hull and East Riding during the Neurodiversity Celebration Week (21-27 March).



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Winners of Neuro Diversity Image Competition:

The top five entries of the competition, that were selected by a panel of Cllr Lynn Petrini Lord Mayor of Hull, Graham Petrini Lord Mayor Consort, Councillors Aneesa Akbar and John Fareham, and Sue Pleasance of HC&L, alongside young person judge Luke Garner, are each to receive £75.00 from the John Cracknell Youth Enterprise Bank.

The winners are young entrepreneur Georgia Wormald, young people from St Mary's College, Chiltern Primary, Northcott School and Oakfield School. These images will be displayed in Ferens Art Gallery and the artists will have afternoon tea with the Lord Mayor.

Hall Road Academy, Wilberforce College, Estcourt Primary, Hedon Inmans Primary and CASE all received a special grant to promote Neurodiversity Week 2022.

Tony Robinson, OBE Patron of John Cracknell Youth Enterprise Bank, said:

"As someone with Dyspraxia myself, I was delighted that the John Cracknell Youth Enterprise Bank was able to sponsor the Neuro Diversity Celebration Image Competition and it was great to see there were so many excellent entries that we decided to give extra prize money.

"Over 20% of business owners in the UK and 30% of those in America, consider themselves to be neurodivergent and I am highly confident that many of those who are neurodivergent and have entered this competition will go on to own their own business. Congratulations to all the entrants as they are all winners."



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