



Wednesday 12 October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

CHANGE TO TRAINING DAY DATES 2022-2023

I wanted to let you know that I am making a change to the training day dates for this academic year. The academy will now be holding training days for our staff on Tuesday 3rd January and Wednesday 4th January 2023. This means that there will no longer be a training day on Monday 17th April 2023.

I have not changed the total number of training days, or the number of days the students should attend school, simply moved the April training day to January. I hope this change does not cause any difficulties for families.

The reason I have made the change is because I have identified a training need for our staff team and have secured two days of Structured TEACCH training for our teaching and learning staff in January.

The TEACCH® Autism Program is a clinical, training, and research program based at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. TEACCH was developed by Dr. Eric Schopler and Dr. Robert Reichler in the 1960s. It was established as a statewide program in 1972 and has become a model for other programs around the world.

TEACCH uses a method called “Structured TEACCHing.” This is based on the unique learning needs of people with ASD, including:

- Strengths in visual information processing
- Difficulties with social communication, attention and executive function

Structured TEACCHing provides strategies and tools for staff to use in the classroom. These help students with autism to achieve educational and therapeutic goals.

The Structured TEACCHing approach focuses on:

- External organizational supports to address challenges with attention and executive function
- Visual and/or written information to supplement verbal communication
- Structured support for social communication

This method supports meaningful engagement in activities. It also works to increase students' flexibility, independence, and self-efficacy.

Structured TEACCHing strategies can be used alongside other approaches and therapies.

Medeshamstede Academy is part of the Greenwood Academies Trust Group of Academies

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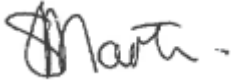
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The Structured Teaching strategies underpin much of the practice we want to see in place at Medeshamstede Academy and by having this training as a whole staff team it will put us in a stronger position to support our students.

The website has been updated to reflect this change and can be viewed through the following link:
[Medeshamstede Academy - Term Dates](#)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Martin'.

Mrs S Martin
Executive Principal

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