

# SEND

## Weekly Newsletter

8 May 2019



Issue 37

## Top tips for you around coping with change

In a recent meeting, the Unstoppables talked about some of their challenges around change.

The members talked about how new routines can be difficult, asking for help can be hard and loud noises and crowds can be daunting.

The group talked about things that have helped them when moving from one school to another, or on to college or even starting a new job. Here are some of their top tips:

“Lots of visits to a new place at different times” this can help a child or young person become familiar with a new environment and experience it at different times of the day where it might be busier.

“Small groups to prepare for change” one of our members said that she joined a small group who were moving to the same college and that being able to meet regularly and plan for the changes helped.

Before starting University, one of our members took part in “Get started” which meant she started a week before everyone else to get used to the campus and lectures times.

Have you got any examples of how you have managed change? Let us know!

[SENDParticipationTeam@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:SENDParticipationTeam@somerset.gov.uk)

Or contact us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/sendparticipationteam/](https://www.facebook.com/sendparticipationteam/)



## School up for another award

Avalon School in Street has made the finals of the Mendip Business Awards 2019.

The event is hosted by Ben McGrail from ITV and is aimed at celebrating inspirational journeys to success.

Avalon School is shortlisted in the Community Enterprise of the Year category. The ceremony takes place on 30 May at the Royal Bath and West Show.

Read about the [Awards here](#).

As reported last week the school is also in the running for a prestigious Tes award at another glittering ceremony in London on 21 June!



## Make sure you visit this sen.se Sational outlet

Yeovil's sen.se Sational shop closes this Saturday so if you haven't checked it out yet - make sure you do.

The outlet which is in the Quedam Centre has been a great success, following on from the Taunton branch last year.

The shop is run by young people and the stock is created by pupils from special schools across the county

The project is led by Special Educational Needs. Somerset Expertise (sen.se), with the support of charity Young Somerset.

Sen.se is a partnership between special schools and specialist provision in Somerset.

The pop-up shop project was a finalist in the Somerset Education Business Partnership Awards 2019.



It demonstrates the power of collaboration, enabling partners to provide more opportunities for young people to gain valuable work experience and skills for life. There's a range of products for sale including:

- Beautiful limited edition paintings
- Homemade preserves

- Handmade bags
- Cards
- Upcycled furniture
- Sweets
- Plants
- Silk scarves

There are plans for further branches in Somerset later this year, including Frome, so watch

## Music support could be crucial

There's funding in place to support young music makers aged 16-25 in Somerset. Actiontrack and Take Art are able to fund the Out There music project which means 1-2-1 bespoke sessions can be provided to support students at risk of losing or dropping their place on music courses.

These can cover music theory, song-writing, technology/production and musical technique. If you have a student, or students who would benefit from this input, please contact [ralph@takeart.org](mailto:ralph@takeart.org), 01460 249450 for further information.

## Short Breaks

Half term is just under three weeks away—27 May— so make sure you check out the Short Breaks Activity Calendar. If you're a parent carer of a child or young person with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities you should get this in the post. If you're not receiving it and want to, call 01823 358117.

You can [download it from here](#).

