



**SMART-WAYS and PART-WAYS: Post-16 provision
for young people with EHCPs**



**Progress and Recovery
through the Creative
Arts**

At The Centre @ Burnholme, Mossdale Avenue, York Y031 0HA - T. 07725997342

SMART-WAYS Individualised Learning Programme – for post 16 learners with EHCPs

Who or what are Tang Hall SMART CIC?

The Tang Hall SMART Community Interest Company is a York-based social enterprise specialising in the creative & performing arts. We were established in 2014 by Sue Williamson, a former teacher at Burnholme Community College, and since then we have developed and grown substantially to become the ‘go-to’ place for Post 16 students who have additional needs, and who enjoy music, art, drama, or dance. (*Note: An EHCP is an Educational and Health Care Plan and this is a requirement of our Smart Ways programme, to draw down the required funding*).

Where are we?

Our main site is located at The Centre@Burnholme, Mossdale Avenue, off Bad Bargain Lane, York, where we have a suite of 7 rooms. Fresh for September 2022, and on top of our excellent Burnholme location, we are delighted to have secured the exclusive daytime use of The Jam Factory in the Groves, which includes several sound-proofed rehearsal rooms, and a fantastic recording studio.

So, what do we offer?

Core programmes in music or arts, are highly individualised to suit students of any ability from entry level to A level equivalent. All programmes are accredited by RSL, who are the industry-respected vocational qualifications awarding- body for creative and performing arts. The student cohort for the 2021-2 year includes those who have never attained any GCSEs before, and who in some cases attended Applefields Special School prior to coming to us and are now working on portfolios which will be submitted at the end of the year for their Level 1 Extended Certificate (GCSE equivalent). We also have an equal number of students who had already attained GCSEs before coming to us, whose additional needs are connected to their mental health and/or other challenges, and who are enrolled on our Level 2 or 3 pathways (the Level 3 Extended Diploma is equivalent to 3 x A levels and appears in performance tables so is suitable for those aiming for university). We have a large team of talented staff, (24 and growing), who

are passionate about their subjects, and dedicated to our students, and we pride ourselves on being able to offer the appropriate blend of challenge and support that is so important for young people to flourish.

Additional options can be taken alongside the core programmes. The standard core programme is for 14 hours, and would be spread over 3 days, but there are options to study functional skills (FS), independent living skills (ILS), and/or sport/gym, which would add to a student's timetable, and could result in a 4-day timetable. ILS focuses on personal and social development and includes the chance to take cookery classes in the learning kitchen at Burnholme. We deliver FS qualifications in both numeracy and literacy (led by our FS Coordinator Rob) to all students who are working towards the national benchmark levels, and we are delighted that we can offer all our students the opportunity to top up their programmes with weekly sessions in the Burnholme Sports Centre (with our own Fitness Instructor, Matt).

Is there anything else on offer?

We include access to our very own digital college: SMART SPACE, as part of the experience. This provides an excellent online platform for essential learning materials such as video tutorials created by our staff, and it is a safe and easy method of sending work for marking and for receiving feedback. Students each receive their own personal login and can browse the full range of subjects on offer. It is possible to study extra digital courses on top of core programmes, to enhance the curriculum further. Our contents library includes the options of learning to play a musical instrument from the beginning, (or to study at a more advanced level) and offers a good range of subjects such as: urban arts, beat making, vocals, rapping, dance, film studies, cooking etc.

We hold regular gigs and concerts in the main assembly hall at Burnholme, (at least one per term), where our students can perform and watch their friends in front of an audience (both on site and live-streamed). We organise online open mic nights, arrange extra-curricular experiences, have our own record label, and offer a good package of pastoral care.

What about Progression Pathways?

We are proud of our former students who have taken up internships, employment, and higher education places, - but we are particularly pleased to be able to add to the

potential options available for our graduates with our very own employability-skills offer! From September 2022, we will provide music/art industry training.

What can students expect from their core educational programmes?

Music: Our musical pathway is suitable for those who enjoy popular music, (all genres catered for) and are keen to develop their own skills - whether they are beginners or more advanced. We can accommodate vocalists, as well as guitarists/ bass players / drummers /pianists / composers /beat-makers /producers etc. We offer well-equipped rehearsal rooms for ensemble work, practice booths for solo work, and are delighted to offer a combined analogue and digital recording studio. All music students study for RSL qualifications at the level that is right for them; anything from Level 1 to the full Extended Level 3 Diploma.

Art: If you would enjoy developing a wide range of vocational art skills, exploring for example stage design, props, stage makeup, marketing and branding, urban arts, masks, puppetry etc alongside traditional 2D and 3D styles, this course could be for you! Students can follow a Level 1 arts pathway leading to the RSL Level 1 qualification in creative and performing arts, or the Level 2 or Level 3 Diploma for those who are more advanced in their studies.

Drama or Dance: We offer dancers and actors the chance to combine with either music and/or art, in order so they can follow the Level 1 or 2 Performing Arts qualifications. We also offer a foundation year where students can study a broad range of creative subjects: music, art, drama - and then either dance or electronics/woodcraft workshop.

Electronics/woodcraft: This can be taken as a short course, which is part of either a Music or Art programme. It is suitable for those who would enjoy using workshop tools, e.g., saws, files, planes, pliers, drills, soldering-iron, and operating our 3D printer - to make a range of products.

Pastoral Support: We advocate an approach whereby we emphasize the importance of meaningful activities as the route to improving wellbeing and esteem. We monitor attendance carefully, and our Pastoral Care Lead, (Graham), and our EHCP Coordinator (Hayley), offer a solution-focussed approach to learners/parents/carers where there are concerns. All staff are trained to offer supportive, enabling, and welcoming relationships with the young people who they work with. Additional support is available

in the form of one-to-one offload sessions (supportive conversations with one of the staff). We work closely with a range of external services and are happy to refer learners to appropriate providers if the need arises.

Successes

Exam grades: We have been successfully entering learners since our launch-date in 2014, with a 100% pass rate at Level 1 and 2. We were particularly proud that our first year of entering students for the Level 3 Subsidiary Level 3 Diploma students (August 2021) exceeded all our expectations, with all 6 students passing (and 3 attaining distinction).

Our Performances/Concerts/Festivals these have included in the past: York Barbican, Fibbers, The Duchess, our own Regeneration and Phoenix Arising Festivals, plus we have presented acts at The Grand Opera House, Hull Festival, York University, the National Centre for Early Music, Feva Festival, and Chapel FM. We organise at least 3 in-house concerts a year - and even during the pandemic managed to hold concerts that we live streamed. Altogether, since our launch in 2014, over 1500 people of all ages have benefited by performing at one or more of these events!

Our record label - Musication: Our biggest artist, is D.Ni.L who is an alternative rock/rap artist and producer, with 6 CDs under his belt, over 200K views on YouTube, and with positive critical acclaim nationally and internationally (including MTV Rocks and Billboard, and numerous plays on BBC Introducing with Jericho Keyes). D.Ni.L (aka Neil Card) is our in-house producer, who has worked with the following artists since we launched the label in May 2017: Resistance (a CD-EP and 2 music videos), The Jammingtons (2 music videos), Raya (music video), Wasabi Fire Alarm (an album on CD and 2 video singles), Buttercream 87 (video single), Vulcan Cicada (CD-EP), Jonny the Wolf (CD-EP and video single) -Contraband (2 video singles), The Punk Crone (2 music videos) - plus two Musication samplers with a selection of up and coming artists. More recently Neil has started to collaborate on and produce a new album with Spencer Harris, one of our current Level 3 students, whose Tik Tok and Facebook videos earned over 700K views in the summer.



How does someone apply?

1. Student numbers and place availability - We anticipate that we will have 35-40 places available for the academic year starting September 2022. We retain our right to refuse admission if we feel we cannot offer a good match or a learner's needs are better met elsewhere. Please note - we strongly advise that applications are sent in as soon as possible; all places for our current cohort were filled by April 2021. Where local authorities other than York are involved, this can be a much slower process, so it is particularly important to send such applications to us as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. The final deadline is May 2022.

Once we receive an email, stating that a learner wants to apply, we will then request the EHCP, and liaise with York Learning, who fund our Smart-Ways programme about an applicant's eligibility. We would also invite the student in for an interview. The next stage after this would be the completion of an application form.

2. Conditions of a place to study - All offers of a place at THS are made on the understanding that applicants are in possession of appropriate documentation and are entitled to appropriate funding *at this level*. There are no entry requirements. We are more interested in the enthusiasm and attitude of applicants. We expect all applicants to have a strong positive reason for wanting to come.

3. Applicants with additional support needs (recognised by Educational Health Care Plan – EHCP): please note that places for students with high levels of support needs are also dependent upon the relevant government and local authority agencies allocating appropriate levels of additional resources. We do not provide personal care for example, and this would need to be arranged externally.

For further information about Tang Hall SMART, the people who work here, our ethos, and our work in the community, please refer to our website: www.tanghallsmart.com

**We can also be found on Facebook
www.facebook.com/TangHallSMART**

Our phone number is 07725997342

For an appointment email sue@tanghallsmart.com