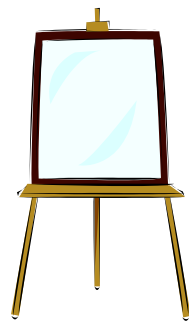


## Question and Answer session with Claire Ross Training Manager



### When did you start at Birtenshaw?

I joined in January 2009. The Social Investment Business had funded a Training Manager and I wanted a new challenge and this job fit what I was looking for.

### What have you been concentrating on?

I wanted to ensure that all our employees had the right skills and knowledge to support children and young people at Birtenshaw. It is important for me that people are supported with their Continual Professional Development as this enables people to realise their full potential. I have established a comprehensive rolling programme of learning events which have been well received by all areas of Birtenshaw.



### What is next for you?

Our dedicated and professional approach to learning and development has seen staff return time and again to develop other key skills which has helped the organisation to grow. We want the opportunity to help other organisations do the same. To be 'skills fit' for now and in the future.



### What type of courses are delivered?

There is a comprehensive list of training that we offer which can be found on our website but some of the 'hot' topics at the moment are:

- Moving and Handling
- Safeguarding Level 3
- Supervision Skills
- Behaviour Management
- Mentoring
- Rebound Therapy

To book your training course or for more details contact Claire on the number below

# Teaser



What is so fragile that when you say it's name it breaks???

Teaser in Issue 2

Feed it and it will grow, give it water and it will die.  
What is it?

Answer: FIRE

Do you have a Teaser to get everyone thinking? If so please email to: [enquiries@birtenshaw.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@birtenshaw.org.uk) and we will print the best ones!

And remember  
Let not the sands of time get in your lunch!



# Birtenshaw Newsletter

A special edition to thank the



Managed by

# The Social Investment Business

for their continued support and for helping us to build a brighter future for children with special needs

## New Children's Homes

We received investment from the Futurebuilders England fund, managed by The Social Investment Business. The investment funded several childrens' homes which have assisted Birtenshaw to meet ordinary life principles. This enables children and young people to socialise within their local community. Each home has been modernised and furnished with state of the art equipment.



Matthew Smith resides in one of our children's homes and attends Birtenshaw School and recently Matthew celebrated his 18th birthday. Matthew was given just hours to live after being born premature but pulled through. His proud parents Louise and Ian Smith said "he could not ask for a better group of teachers and carers who look after him at Birtenshaw and his good health is down to them. So we will say thanks to you all". Photograph courtesy of The Bolton News.

Matthew and his mum, Louise, now



Matthew, aged one, and his mum

If you would like to comment on this newsletter or enquire about any of our services...

Please send an email to: [enquiries@birtenshaw.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@birtenshaw.org.uk)  
Or telephone on: 01204 304230

Or write to us at:  
Birtenshaw  
Darwen Road  
Bromley Cross  
Bolton  
BL7 9AB



To book your residential placement contact us now:  
Telephone: 01204 304230

### Inside this issue:

- Pg. 1 - New Homes & 18 Birthday
- Pg. 2 - New School
- Pg. 3 - New School & Thought for the day
- Pg. 4 - Training
- Pg. 4 - Brain teaser

## £5.6 Million New Special School



David Reid explained that *'everything will be brand new. Not just the chairs and desks but also interactive whiteboards, the computers, computerised systems to operate automatic doors and tracking systems for moving smart wheelchairs will be built in'*.

**"I am looking forward to walking in the new garden"**  
 NH  
 (child supported by Birtenshaw)

Besides this the new build will be environmentally friendly, using solar power and other sustainable energy sources, and will even recycle rain water which will no doubt help with the eco ethos in Birtenshaw school.

During the interview JG. asked when the new school would be opened. David Reid answered that *'the new school will probably open late 2011 or early 2012'*.

**Reservations for special educational placements for this new school are now being taken.**

**Great News!** The planning application for the new special school for Birtenshaw has been approved!

Roving reporter JG. (young person supported by Birtenshaw) interviewed David Reid, Chief Executive, about the project and asked if the new build was just going to be a school. David Reid explained that *'the building is going to house a new, state of the art purpose built special school and head office. The health and therapy centre and the new nursery and crèche will also be there. The new Hydrotherapy pool will be bigger and better than our current pool and will be available not just for pupils at Birtenshaw but will also be for hire so that even more people can benefit from it'*.

When asked if the new school would have any special features or resources,



## £5.6 Million New Special School



**"I can't wait to use the new computers and the camera"**  
 AH  
 (child supported by Birtenshaw)

As roving reporter JG. said: *'It all sounds very exciting. Thank you very much for sharing this information with us.'*

The support from Social Investment Business has enabled our plans to become possible and for Birtenshaw to really build a brighter future for children with special needs.

**"I will be able to do some lessons outside"**  
 LM  
 (child supported by Birtenshaw)



**The Social Investment Business**

**Thank you to everyone involved for your help and support given!**

To book your special education placement contact us now:  
 Telephone: 01204 304230  
 e-mail: [enquiries@birtenshaw.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@birtenshaw.org.uk)

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY!**

