

# Provision for adults with learning difficulties and/ or disabilities at RHACC

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# RHACC: Who are we?

- A new service formed from merger of two SEN specialist colleges, RACC and Hillcroft Colleges.
- Ofsted rated 'Good' with Outstanding features



# RACC

- A unique and vibrant adult college that welcomes and supports people of all backgrounds and abilities. Approximately 9000 individuals do one or more courses with us every year
- Based in Richmond – accessible facilities
- Top of 2015/16 national learner satisfaction survey



# RACC

- 150+ learners with moderate to severe learning difficulties, and around 1300 individuals with mild learning difficulties and/ or disabilities. Ofsted 'Exceptional' for inclusion and support.
- Access and inclusion for everyone at the right level and starting point for the individual.
- All learners access appropriate curriculum in mainstream setting with specialist facilities and support where needed.





# Hillcroft:

- Women's residential Institute of Adult Learning



# Hillcroft:

- Specialists in dyslexia, mental health support, support for women facing multiple disadvantage
- Course offer - literacy, numeracy, employability, advocacy and confidence building, access to FE and HE
- 3 acres of grounds
- Grade II listed building

# RHACC

## Following our merger on Oct 1<sup>st</sup> :

- New educational charity
- Mission: *'Empowering adults and communities through education'*
- Two sites, one in Richmond and one in Surbiton, both minutes from the station. Both have car/ taxi drop-off space.
- Government funding for adult community learning – day and residential

# RHACC Facilities:



- **Parkshot (Richmond)** - traditional classrooms, specialist teaching spaces, art studios, theatre and kitchen.
- Community spaces open to public– gallery, shop, café, gardens and lounge areas to meet friends.
- Accessible toilet with hoist, open to the community
- **Hillcroft (Surbiton)** - residential facilities for up to 50 people, traditional classrooms, teaching kitchen, beauty/ therapies suite, IT rooms, library



# RHACC Courses:

- Over 2000 courses for all abilities and ages
- Learning for work, life/greater independence, leisure and wellbeing
- Personalised support – 1:1, small classes, tutorials, adapted materials, special equipment, signers, in-class support
- Range of half day, 1 day, full time and short courses
- 1-5 day a week programmes built for individuals
- Cost: most courses free. Fees for leisure courses and for materials e.g. cookery ingredients
- **Part time residential programme from September 2018 for:**
  - Small groups of 6-9 learners plus support at Hillcroft in Surbiton
  - These skills courses will also be free

# Courses which prepare learners for work and life:

- Art
  - Beauty and Self Care Skills
  - Cookery and Catering
  - English
  - Horticulture
  - IT
  - Independent Living
  - Maths
  - Performing Arts
  - Sport
- There are also a number of leisure courses available in Art, Music, Dance and Exercise, and Photography.

# How do courses help to prepare learners for work?

- Pre vocational courses lead to appropriate further training or volunteering
- All courses include English and maths skills made relevant to the subject.
- Supported internships opportunities - kitchen technicians, care work, office work on site or with an employer.
- Other courses help learners to learn skills for work; for example, learners on our arts courses help in the College Gallery Shop at Parkshot.



# What will the residential offer be like?

- Because Hillcroft College is a historic building, the residential accommodation is not yet fully accessible for learners who use a wheelchair. In 2018 we will be preparing for capital development of the site to make it fully-accessible to everyone.
- Therefore, in September 2018, the residential offer will be aimed at learners who are:
  - beginning to prepare for living independently or in supported accommodation;
  - men and women with learning difficulties and/ or disabilities aged 19+ on the 31 August before the academic year starting in Sep;
  - Able to access the existing facilities

# What will the residential offer be like?

- Personalised support
- Appropriate staffing throughout the day and night, according to needs
- Teaching in small groups, focussed on independent living and work skills
- The 24-hour curriculum will include study skills, learning about personal care, domestic arrangements, meal planning, shared living, evening social activities with mainstream residential learners.
- **Proposed model (we will be consulting on this):**
  - Long and short, part-time residential courses, including weekends, weekday and holiday intensives.
  - Independent living at the core, but will include preparation for work in a range of sectors such as retail, care, catering, gardening, office skills.



# What will the cost be?

- For eligible learners, the main course provision, and residential costs, will be paid from RHACC's grant funding
- There may be additional charges for certain things such as trips/visits, ingredients for cookery classes, some materials in art classes.

# Parent Advisory Group

- We are very keen that this new residential provision is tailored to the requirements of those who need it
- We are therefore establishing a parent advisory group, which will meet for the first time in January, to help us to shape this offer.
- We are looking for parents/ carers who would be willing to come to a series of meetings to discuss the course content and delivery model, use their contacts to test out some of the proposals so that we can begin recruiting from Easter 2018.
- Please contact me if you feel you could help us with this:
  - **Gaynor Bray – Vice Principal Teaching and Learning**
  - [gaynor.bray@rhacc.ac.uk](mailto:gaynor.bray@rhacc.ac.uk)

# How do you find out more, or enrol on one of our classes now?

- Just contact us for a meeting with a specialist staff member. We will help you to put together a programme which meets your individual needs.
- [LLDD@rhacc.ac.uk](mailto:LLDD@rhacc.ac.uk)
- 020 8891 5907 ext 5012

Any questions?