



Thomley
A place for people of all
abilities and disabilities

School

News

Issue 1

Transport service

**New transport service for schools and groups
Available now!**

Help us spread the word.....

Using a 16 seat wheelchair accessible minibus, we are launching a new transport service, initially for schools and groups who are unable to get to Thomley by other means. The minibus will take a maximum of two wheelchairs.

We welcome enquiries from schools and groups within a radius of 35 miles. Any school or group wanting to book the minibus must contact Courtney on bookings@thomley.org.uk or 01844 338380. N.B. We are finalising the details of the service so Courtney may not know the answers before this launch date!

We intend this service to be financially self-sustaining and will request a non-profit payment for the distance of each journey.

To keep costs down, we are seeking committed volunteer drivers. Please contact: stan@thomley.org.uk if you are interested, or call Stan on: 01844 338380 (Ext 103).



Open days for schools

Wednesday 24th and Friday 26th June - for schools, their classes and their students who haven't been to Thomley before.

The open days are a fantastic opportunity for you to come and use Thomley's facilities. We are offering the first 15 students from each class / school to access the day for FREE! Why not request an extra activity too?

For any enquiries regarding the school open days, email Joe on:

joe@thomley.org.uk

If transport is an issue then why don't you book our minibus?

When can you come?

Thomley is open for schools every Wednesday and Friday in term time. You may also book on a Tuesday providing the children are under 6 (preschool day). We are open from 10am - 3:30pm.

We also offer an evening Youth Group every other Thursday for teenagers and accept bookings from Preschools, these are very popular in the months leading up to the summer.

Contact Anna:

anna@thomley.org.uk for Youth Club enquiries.

Open day for Professionals

On Wednesday 1st July we will open our doors to professionals working with, or for, disabled people - teachers, carers, support group leaders, social care workers, or anyone who hasn't seen our site before. Come and have a tour of our fantastic facility and see what we have to offer.

After your tour you will have a chance to ask questions and will receive some special incentives to come back to Thomley, this time with the families, children or adults you work with.

To book your tour, email Joe:

joe@thomley.org.uk

Morning tour: 11am

Afternoon tour 1:30pm

Book now

Remember that booking is essential.

Please email Courtney on: bookings@thomley.org.uk or call her on: 01844 338380.

We are now taking bookings for schools and groups for the summer term and summer holidays.

For our full range of activities for term time and the school holidays see our activity planner:

<http://thomley.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/June-and-July-activities.pdf>

Brand new offers for schools...



**Open days for schools:
Wednesday 24th and
Friday 26th June 2015**

Extra activities for schools...

There are so many things to do at Thomley, from our sensory room, to soft play area, to the masses of outside space. But we do offer various activities for schools as well as our general facilities, including:

Physical - bike time trials, parachute games & treasure hunts

Sensory – slime play, shaving foam, scented painting & jelly beads

Healthy living – fruit monster sculptures, rainbow pasta salad, & fruity cocktails

Life skills & Careers – hortic allotment veg patches & friendship team games

Arts and crafts - messy splatter art & extreme junk modelling

Book bag vouchers...

Every child that attends with school will get a Thomley voucher to take home. Meaning they can have a free visit to Thomley in their own time, and bring family or friends too.



“The benefits of this for our pupils are countless.”

“Each Friday some of our pupils have the fantastic opportunity to spend the afternoon at Thomley. The benefits of this for our pupils are countless.

Trips to Thomley are a key part of our personal, social development skills programme. The pupils are encouraged to share equipment, take turns using the soft play area and develop their communication skills with each other within a safe and highly enjoyable environment.

In terms of academic development our staff are often able to make reference to topics covered in the week whilst outside, art activities are available for our pupils to undertake each week and the pupils are often keen to develop their musical experience by using the outdoor and indoor musical instruments.



In their home school communication books, without fail they record their best activity of the day as ‘THOMLEY’. One pupil sometimes writes Thomley in the smiley section of his home-school book before he has even been. When I asked him how he can know he is going to have a great time. He simply answered, ‘It’s the best place I know, of course it will be great, it always is!’ High praise from a pupil who is often anxious and finds it a challenge to identify positive elements of his day on other days of the week.

The staff are welcoming and knowledgeable about how to support pupils who require any assistance during our visits, with anything from clean clothes to helping staff with a child who has become anxious and requires some reassurance or distraction. We feel very lucky to be able to access the fantastic facility on a regular basis and the children all agree its the best lesson of the week!”

Teacher from C&I Resource Base St. Andrews CE Primary School.