

# Spotlight on...

## Tailoring safety for schools

### What the need was and how we identified it

Fairfield School in Batley, Kirklees District, provides a wraparound provision for pupils and students aged 3 to 19 years with severe or profound learning difficulties and related needs. The Teaching & Support Teams ensure that learning opportunities and activities are matched to individual needs and the school has high expectations of every pupil.

In September 2010 Fairfield gained Specialist School Status for Communication and Interaction.

To support the delivery of lessons which are fun, engaging and interactive the school established links with Dewsbury Station. Firefighter Asif Mahroof, White Watch has visited their post-16 year class to give fire safety advice and to assist in their media lessons.

### What we did and the difference we made

The existing WYFRS Year 5 school package was specifically tailored for this group and we also used our locally-produced fire safety DVD for, and featuring people with learning disabilities, to support learning. The pupils also enjoyed the opportunity to try on fire kit and helmets.

The pupils represent the diverse community in Dewsbury, with 5 of the students speaking an Asian language. Firefighter Mahroof speaks four community languages; English, Urdu, Punjabi and Gujarati and therefore was able to interact with the pupils to help them understand the need to keep themselves safe from fire.

His last visit resulted in a thank you letter from the special needs teacher to WYFRS, thanking Asif personally: - "Absolutely brilliant talker, very cooperative and he was able to relate very well to our very profound with multiple disabilities students. The students really enjoyed his visit and wish he could come more often. Could you please let him know we very much appreciated his visit".



West Yorkshire  
Fire & Rescue Service

Making West Yorkshire Safer  
[www.westyorksfire.gov.uk](http://www.westyorksfire.gov.uk)

### Outcomes

Establishing links in the community with students with severe or profound learning difficulties.

Opportunities for our diverse workforce to use their language skill and promote the work of the fire service.

Development opportunities for staff working in different environments.

Partnership working with the local special needs school.

### Keys to our success

- Employing a diverse, talented workforce.
- Knowing our local communities and delivering services that meet the specific needs of vulnerable groups.
- Collaboration with Fairfield School to design appropriate learning packages for their pupils.

### Contact

Kirklees District Office

e | [contact.kirklees@westyorksfire.gov.uk](mailto:contact.kirklees@westyorksfire.gov.uk)

or [www.fairfieldschool.co.uk](http://www.fairfieldschool.co.uk)

This 'spotlight on' contributes to...



**DELIVERING A PROACTIVE  
FIRE PREVENTION AND  
PROTECTION PROGRAMME**



**EMPLOYMENT AND  
TRAINING  
INDICATOR: 3.15**

**EXCELLENT**



**West Yorkshire**  
Fire & Rescue Service

**Making West Yorkshire Safer**  
[www.westyorksfire.gov.uk](http://www.westyorksfire.gov.uk)