

12<sup>th</sup> July 2007

## Report for John Blithe, Gardening Co-ordinator

John has worked at The Hayesbrook School every Thursday during the Summer Term 2007 without fail.

He has developed, single-handed, an excellent team of 6 boys in Year 9, all of whom have difficulties with engaging in the ordinary mainstream school. All of them have mild to severe learning difficulties. At least 3 of them have significant Behavioural, Social and Emotional difficulties. Another 2 extremely difficult boys have been able to take part for at least some of the project.

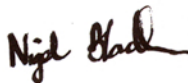
Their attendance has improved overall since the project began, as has their general behaviour in lessons. All 6 boys have succeeded in gaining a Schools Link place either at West Kent College or Hadlow College. There is a significant, observable improvement in their self-worth and independence.

The actual garden that John has planned, developed and completed this term with his team of boys is exceptional. It has become a focal point in a dreary, unused area of the school, and many students and staff have commented very positively.

We would like to formally thank John for his hard work and contribution to our school community, and hope that this will not be the last we see of him.



Janet Kane  
Assistant Headteacher  
(Inclusion and Access)



Nigel Blackburn  
Headteacher



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Specialist Sports College

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