

You Said, We Did - Update for Learners: April 2025

You never fail to amaze us! Every single day there is something that one or more of you do, achieve, or say that gives us as a staff team a 'wow' moment. This really demonstrates how you are embracing some of the changes that we have made, and continue to make to improve learners experience at MIAG.

There is still a lot of improvements happening across the site but you are taking them all in your stride and coming up with ideas which are always welcome.

You know how important your voices are, and you always provide us with an excellent insight to your suggestions. As we have said before with so many learners it is not always possible to take everyone's views on board and we have to go with the majority opinion. This does not mean that your voice has not been heard or that your suggestions/input are not valid, it simply means that we have to take a wider view and go with the majority. Your Key Workers can help you in these situations so that you are able to see why decisions have been made, but you will need to raise this with them in a calm manner.

February 2025 – April 2025

You said:	We did:
Construction Learners wanted to have a space for them to do their written work following practical activities	We have worked as a team to create a 'room within a room', so a small classroom area has been built inside the construction area, and this will be open from the start of next term (after Easter). The Marquee has been moved to the construction yard so that there is a covered outdoor space for practical construction such as brick laying in the Autumn and Winter months.
You want to be able to do some nice off-site activities at the end of term	We have agreed to support this as part of the behaviour policy that is in place BUT Lisa is still waiting ideas from the learners as to what rewards are to be considered. Please work with your Key Workers to provide some suggestions.

<p>You have asked for the outdoor area to be more welcoming</p>	<p>We have continued to work on this across the site and since the last update when quite a lot of work had been undertaken we have now also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Painted the fence by construction ➤ Painted the railings by the Bungalow ➤ Installed and painted a privacy screen for the staff toilet in the main outdoor area ➤ Have a range of planters including a herb garden ➤ Removed the Marquee from the main outside area ➤ Have some handmade seating available ➤ Installed some hanging baskets and wall art ➤ Generally had a good clean up around the site <p>Work will continue and see what next?</p>
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What Next? April 2025 – June 2025

We also have committed to undertake some further improvements and wanted to outline these to you.

You said:	We will:
End of Term Leavers Event	This was in the last update and we are still awaiting your suggestions. It is just 9 weeks until our leavers finish on Friday 27 th June 2025, so we need to start planning guys.
Gatehouse	You will have seen a lot of work on the gatehouse including a new roof, we need to paint and furnish the inside of the building and we will do this over the coming summer months so that we are able to move in ready for the new academic year in September 2025.
Forest School	We will be moving the Forest School learners into their new surroundings over the Easter holiday and subsequent

	<p>weeks. The space is amazing for them and we will work with the Forest School staff to ensure that you are able to visit and see where our younger learners will be based.</p> <p>Again as a staff team we cannot thank you enough for the way that you have embraced the younger students; how you have supported them and built up some nice relationships – well done & thank you 😊</p>
Outdoor Painting	<p>As part of the request to make the outdoor area more inviting, we have been working behind the scenes with a number of Bristol Street Artists. They have put together an amazing programme that will include learners being able to work alongside them and create street art at specific points across the site.</p>
Not on your Tod Project	<p>Some of you will remember the visit by Chris Todd back before Christmas. Chris set up and runs a young person's mental health charity, NOYT (Not on Your Tod) and as part of his awareness raising he has agreed to come in after half term and deliver a programme to learners, this will include helping to design art work for hoodies that show how NOYT and MIAG work together.</p>

As you can see we have continued to be busy based on your feedback but don't stop there as we love to hear from you about things that will make the MIAG learning environment better, not just for you but for the young people who come here when you have left for your next placement or work. We are committed to improving the site and need to do this through the eyes of you the learners. If you have ideas for improvements, please do speak to George and he can bring this forward to the Senior leadership team.

Enjoy your Easter Break 😊

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It is not usual for us to write to you at the start of a term, but we have been working very hard over the Easter Holidays, and we wanted to give you some updates:

Staffing:

Just to let you all know that Josh, Functional Skills Tutor has left MIAG. This will mean that George will now be teaching you until the end of the year.

April 2025

You said:	We did:
You want to be able to do some nice off-site activities at the end of the term	<p>Whilst we are waiting for a list of ideas as part of the Behaviour Reward Scheme, there was a request on behalf of you all at the end of last term to have a treat at McDonald's. This has been agreed for the end of this term, and your Key Workers and your parents will discuss with you what you each need to achieve to gain this reward. The good news is that you can achieve this individually, you will not be reliant this time, upon the whole of your group achieving this.</p> <p>We have written to your families as well to outline what needs to be achieved to gain this reward.</p> <p>We know that you can do this!!</p>
Forest School Area	<p>We have worked hard over Easter, particularly Julian and Craig who works at our Gloucester site in creating a lovely area for the younger learners. We will be arranging for you to come across in small groups to have a look at what this looks like and to give us your views on what we have built.</p>