



Get Involved

Celebrating Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic Month

March marks our Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic month and we're planning lots to celebrate alongside the EDI Network!

We're producing a newsletter, packed full of recipes, book recommendations, mythbusting, info on microaggressions, and how to be a good ally along with lots more.

Check out our website, and our social media pages across the month.

If you want to be involved and celebrate with us throughout March, send an email to

EDI@creativesupport.co.uk or
marketing@creativesupport.co.uk
with your idea/recipe/
recommendation and we'll try and
share as many as we can!

International Women's Day

We're also celebrating International Women's Day on the **8th March**, so keep an eye on our social media and website to see how we're marking the day!



Find hundreds of great offers, fantastic deals and discounts on a wide range of products and services.

Looking to send your mum flowers for Mother's Day - you can get a 15% discount with [eflorist](#) or 12% with [Clare Florist](#).

Thinking about booking a staycation this summer? Check out the great offers available for camping, holiday resorts and cottages across the UK.

You can also save money on your weekly shop with discounts with all the big supermarkets.

View more at:
www.yourrewards.co.uk

Username: Creative
Password: benefits

Covid Vaccine and Mythbusting

A big thank you to everyone who has had their Covid-19 vaccine so far! Staff who haven't had the chance to book/have theirs yet, can book a vaccination appointment [here](#) or by calling **119**.

By getting the vaccine, you're making the country a bit safer and protecting those around you, including those at work and at home. As it stands, over 20 million people in the UK have had their first dose of the vaccine which is an incredible feat, and will hopefully mean that lockdown restrictions can be eased sooner and we can start to get back to some kind of normality in the coming months.

Once you have had your vaccine, don't forget to claim your **vaccination payment** as a thank you. You can do this through the [Staff Area](#) of the website where you will also find out more information on this incentive and how you can also donate this payment to a chosen charity if you prefer.

Service Director Lyndsey Downes, has been doing some vaccine myth-busting recently, direct to your emails, and we wanted to share some of these with you here too:

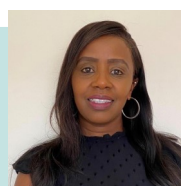
- **The vaccine does not contain animal products**
- **There is no evidence to suggest the vaccine can affect fertility**
- **The vaccine does not contain the live virus itself - only harmless elements from it. These elements are the only way you can boost your immunity against COVID-19**
- **The vaccine was only available so quickly, due to the global effort behind producing it**
- **There are no cases of significant side effects from the millions of people who have received this vaccine worldwide**

You can also view these online here: creativesupport.co.uk/covid-19-vaccine-positive-impact/

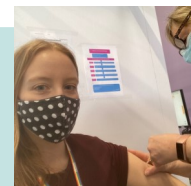


Getting vaccinated is the best defence against the COVID-19 virus. I did not hesitate at all when I was told I could book my vaccine slot. As a health and care worker, I have to set an example for all communities including the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic community. Based on risk vs benefit the vaccine is the best way forward and has the potential to bring back normality into our lives. Let's all embrace it!"

- Serah Murega



I feel very proud to have had my vaccine, knowing that I am protecting myself, my family and colleagues. I got the vaccination at my local medical centre, it was very quick to make the booking online (I also booked my second one at the same time) and I was very impressed by how efficient it was on the day - I was in and out within 10 minutes. Most importantly I did not even notice the vaccine taking place, I was too busy getting the right angle for my Selfie!" - Sally Jellicoe



Keep an eye on our social media, Twitter - @crtvspprt, Facebook Creative Support, LinkedIn Creative Support for more of our #VaccinationStories that have been sent in from people we support and staff from across the country!

Staff Hardship Fund

As we are now in another national lockdown and uncertain times remain, we are aware that some of our employees are still facing exceptional and significant hardship due to their personal family circumstances. Therefore, we have decided to reopen our Hardship Fund for applications of discretionary grants of up to £500 for staff who are facing financial hardship as a result of Coronavirus. To find out more visit:

www.creativesupport.co.uk/hardship-fund/

Or email: **HardshipFund@creativesupport.co.uk**

Health Assured

Don't forget Health Assured, our Employee Assistance Programme is available 24/7 to offer all our staff telephone support for practical and emotional issues.

Call 0800 028 0199

Download the 'My Healthy Advantage App'. The app provides a set of wellbeing tools designed to help improve your mental and physical health. When signing up on the app please enter code **MHA001768**



You can use iTrent to view your Payslips and P60, see training you have completed and keep updated with employee news.

If you are having problems accessing iTrent, please contact the iTrent helpdesk:
itrent.helpdesk@creativesupport.co.uk
or call 0161 236 0829



Follow us @crtvspprt

Recognising our Exceptional Staff

ACHIEVE
Quality

We want to continue to recognise the unique contribution our staff make to the safety and wellbeing of the people we support, especially in such difficult times, through the Achieve Q Awards.



The latest Gold winners of the Achieve Q Awards are the brilliant Joy Heyes and Paula Williams, support workers at Doncaster Mental Health Floating Support Service. Together they supported Roy and Christine, two married service users who lived apart, to help them find funding and resources so that they could live together again.

Alongside our regular Achieve Q Awards, we have run a one-off **Registered Managers Awards** and **Achieve Q Administration Awards**. The Registered Managers Awards were to recognise the massive efforts of our fantastic Registered Managers during the challenges of 2020. Abigail Harker, a Senior Registered Manager from Doncaster Supported Living won the 'Registered Manager of the Year 2020', [visit the Staff Area of the website](#), for the full list of winners.

"It was really overwhelming to win the Achieve Q Registered Manager of the Year award. It is a really difficult job at times and to be recognised for the work that we do is really heartfelt. I work as part of an amazing team and the support from them and from the organisation really helps me within my role. Thank you!"

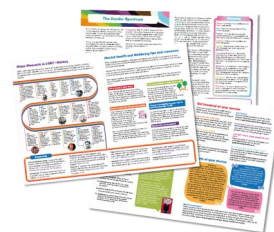


Our Achieve Q Administration Awards were to celebrate the huge contribution of our admin and office based staff across the country. We had a huge number of entries, which were a joy to read, and the winners are all very well deserving so a big congrats to you all. The full list of winners will be announced by email soon and will be featured on the Staff Area of the website.

Remember, we're always running the Achieve Q Awards, and you can nominate people who have gone above and beyond by clicking this link here:
www.creativesupport.co.uk/staff-area/achieve-q/

LGBT+ History Month

In February, we celebrated LGBT+ History Month! So many people got involved, shared their stories, and celebrated the month - we wanted to thank you for taking part! We shared our jam-packed LGBT+ History Month newsletter, which you can find here bit.ly/3bO7rFw, along with posting lots on our social media channels, including some of our personal #LGBTHeroes!



None of this could have been done without the hard work of Creative Support's LGBT+ Network, and if you would like to get involved in the network, you can email them at lgbt.network@creativesupport.co.uk to find out more and join the next meeting!

We also just wanted to encourage people, if they feel comfortable doing so, to put their pronouns in their email signatures e.g. under your name and job title add "Pronouns: She/Her". Other common pronouns are He/Him or They/Them. Including our pronouns normalises the practice, and shows our willingness and dedication to support inclusivity and respect people's pronouns and their gender.