

Youth Employment Cabinet Report – Progress Update

Case study and feedback annex

“ I've gotten my act together and grown over the last few months thanks to the Kickstart programme. My preparation for everything has improved, my interview and application skills have improved, and my confidence has grown. Now I know exactly what I need to do to achieve my goals.”

Sarah - a learner with the Kickstarter programme.

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“ I didn't know what I wanted to do, and I discovered so many things I was interested in. I took every chance I could to learn something new and get as much experience as possible. After working with a team and learning so many new communication skills, I'm ready to take on more responsibilities and push myself further.”

Lydia -- a learner with the Kickstarter programme.

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“ One of the barriers I always faced when looking for a job is experience. I didn't have much. I'm glad I took this opportunity because it has allowed me to gain more skills. Now I can give examples of the work I've actually done in interviews, which gives me more confidence when applying for the jobs I want.”

Courtney -- a learner with the Kickstarter programme.

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“ The big thing for me was my anxiety. Before I started my journey, I wouldn't have been able to talk to you. Now, thanks to my course and my Kickstart position, I'm doing a job where I'm talking to different people all day. My confidence has improved, and now I'm not afraid to meet new people and try new things.”

Brandon -- a learner with the Kickstarter programme.

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Thanks to getting some hands-on experience, I feel so much better about applying for jobs. My skill set has grown, and I have more confidence to put myself there. I used to be nervous when presenting or speaking in an interview; now, I can do it with no problems.

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Mia -- a learner with the Kickstarter programme.

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I've always wanted to get into business management, and I didn't know where to start. I worried that I spoke too informally and, without any experience, I wouldn't have a chance. Working with a hardworking team has given me the chance to develop my communication skills, and I'm now more confident working in a business setting than ever before.

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Alex -- a learner with the Kickstarter programme.

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Further Young People feedback:

“Everyone was extremely helpful in getting me settled in and answering anything I was unsure about.”

“All the team made me feel so welcome and someone was there to show me what I was doing each day. I was also shadowing people which helped me get an insight of what people do in the workplace.”

“I also gained more self-confidence from my time in the office and thus it served a great purpose and I'm thankful for it.”

“I could let my guard down and relax as I'm a part of a great, caring and understanding team.”

“We, as young people, are treated fairly and with respect and dignity [...] I actually feel Barnsley Council have treated me brilliantly since I've been here and I'm so proud to be a part of the Council and [...] to provide the best service I can to the people of Barnsley.”

“I am very happy with my current employment and would continue it past my 12 months in a heartbeat were such an opportunity available. The work is varied and interesting, and the people within my team are very supportive. I think it has and will continue be a valuable experience and I would recommend the Kickstart program for BMBC to other young people.”

“I think it is a very good scheme for young people and would recommend to others.”

“My experience has been positive so far, everyone has been really helpful and welcoming, and more than happy to help when I ask for guidance.”

“I have really enjoyed my time with the council so far and have no complaints or issues whatsoever.”

Manager feedback:

“Our new starter from the Youth Employment Programme has settled in really well thanks to her work ethic and fantastic attitude. With each passing week she gains new skills and invaluable experience that will stand her in good stead when seeking employment in the future. She has become a valued team member helping assist with day-to-day tasks. She is a testament to the programme, and I would not hesitate to take on anyone else from the programme in the future.”

“Our experience with the young person on the Youth Employment Programme so far has been a really positive one. They have supported the Outreach and nursery team within the Family Centre. Both nursery and the outreach team report that they interact really well both with children and families, they are willing to carryout duties as requested. Although young, the young person uses their initiative and ensures that she stays busy. She has also

supported on reception during difficult times due to staff sickness. She has been a real asset to our team."

"I have had a good experience managing the young member of staff. They have come with a fantastic attitude and work ethic. It's been a pleasure to see the young person develop and flourish."

"The stores run like clockwork thanks to the two young people on the Youth Employment Programme who joined our team. All kit for the authority is meticulously accounted for and looked after thanks to their hard work and dedication. They contribute to our values: We're a Team, We'll be Excellent."

"..... has been brilliant since starting here with us. He's shown a real interest in our line of work and is always passionate about what ever task he's given to do".