

Community Grant Case Study – HS

Background:

HS had not been in full time education since year 8 of secondary school which amounted to approximately 5 years. She suffered from migraines, severe anxiety and chronic fatigue. She was originally given a part time timetable at school to help with this but eventually ended up not attending at all. When she started with us at DCVS, HS had not accessed any form of education for over a year and her Mother said that she seldom left the house during this time, even to socialise with friends. She had had access to an online geography GCSE for the last year but had not started working towards it.

Progression:

HS began coming to sessions at DCVS but her attendance was initially sporadic. Over the course, once she became comfortable and her confidence grew, her attendance became a lot more regular. Whilst attending DCVS, she completed an Entry Level 3 Award in Skills for employment, training and personal development. As part of this qualification, she did some detailed research into possible career paths, the qualifications that she would need to pursue these and made a plan of what she would like to do next with her education. She also did a lot of work on self-esteem, confidence and dealing with anxiety, which showed a noticeable growth in confidence.

HS was also given to opportunity to work towards a maths and English functional skills qualification. Her confidence was particularly low in her ability in these two areas (although this was completely unfounded as she showed good abilities in each subject). She has made good progress and has been given the opportunity to take an exam in both. We hope that she will take this opportunity and are still working towards this with her.

Her Mother, who dropped her off for every session, made a point of coming in to say how much HS's attitude and confidence had improved. She said that HS had been making plans for possible progression routes once she had finished with us and was looking into animal care courses. Her Mother was also extremely pleased that HS had begun to work on her online geography GCSE of her own accord. Her Mother said that the time that she had spent with us had helped to motivate HS and increase her confidence considerably.