



Eloise's story*

Find out how Creative Mentoring supported Eloise* with an upcoming school transition by helping her to manage her emotions and learn new skills!

*Names have been changed to protect the young person's identity.

"I've worked so hard on this, it's taken weeks!"

Eloise*, Young Mentee

"The confidence Eloise had in sharing her ideas improved throughout the sessions. The wall art piece she created was planned out and completed over a number of sessions, showing the perseverance to see her idea come to fruition."
Penelope*, Creative Mentor

"It looks so much better than I imagined it would."

Eloise*, Young Mentee

social justice for young people

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This enabled Eloise to develop her problem-solving skills, as she had to find a solution when the dinosaur's neck was too heavy. Eloise and Penelope began a wall art project, with Eloise sketching and painting flowers with Penelope's support. Eloise took the lead on this project, spending time in between sessions practising her flowers! Penelope supported by teaching Eloise some techniques for painting them, purchasing a frame for her and by encouraging her to find a solution when something went wrong. By the end of their time together, the project was complete, and Eloise was extremely proud of it.

what was a key moment?

At the start of a particular session Eloise was reluctant to engage, with the staff at her residential home telling Penelope that the previous day had been difficult for Eloise. However, Penelope noticed Eloise fiddling with a pipe cleaner, and this prompted a game between them of who could make the most interesting object out of one pipe cleaner. This gentle approach allowed Eloise to process some of what she was feeling that day and, ultimately, have a positive session with Penelope.

what progress has been made?

Eloise has shown **significant progress** in **Problem Solving** and **Ideas Generation** (improving from 2/5 to 4/5). Moderate progress was shown in **Confidence, Motivation, Communication** and **Self-belief** (all improving from 3/5 to 4/5). It's clear that Eloise made lots of impressive progress across all areas. She developed numerous new skills that will support her school transition. After spending 48 hours together, Eloise came on leaps and bounds and has achieved so much over this time. We're really looking forward to hearing about what Eloise explores in the future.



background

Eloise was 14 years old when she was referred for Creative Mentoring. She was not attending school due to a move to a new area. She was waiting for a place at a new school, and this was taking a long time. Understandably, this uncertainty was difficult for Eloise. Eloise's carers hoped that Creative Mentoring would provide Eloise with support to manage her emotions and give her something positive to focus on while she waited to start a new school - as well as learning some new skills!

who was Eloise matched with?

Eloise was matched with Penelope, a Creative Mentor with a wide range of skills and experiences. TMC staff felt that Penelope's calm and caring nature was a perfect match to support Eloise, and that her wide variety of artistic skills would allow Eloise to explore her own interests.

what happened next?

From their first sessions, Eloise showed a keen interest in art, particularly in painting. Eloise and Penelope started working with clay together, with Eloise making a model dinosaur inspired by a film she had recently watched.