



Ewan's story*

Find out how Creative Mentoring helped 16-year-old Ewan* to grow in confidence and see his creativity flourish through a range of activities, including gardening, clay modelling and spin painting.

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

"Despite there being many ups and downs during Ewan and Laura's Creative Mentoring journey, it has been great to see Ewan embracing changes and different interests and becoming more resilient as a result."

Supporting Adult

"It is brilliant to see what we have made with some creative use of space, seeds and compost! In a short space of time, Ewan has brought his idea to life and now has a thriving vegetable plot. As his mentor, it is a real joy to be a part of and he has inspired me to spend a bit more time in my own garden, too!"

Laura*, Creative Mentor

"I love my veg patch. I like seeing the progress each week. When you are growing things, you can really see the difference you are making."

Ewan*, Young Mentee

social justice for young people

through arts, culture and creativity

the **mighty** creatives



This has been built upon in their further sessions, with Ewan working hard and gaining confidence to talk about future plans and even suggesting projects for the garden, such as hand built decorated planters. Towards the middle of the contract, there were some sudden changes for Ewan which paused sessions, but they picked up again where they left off, with Laura introducing Ewan to art and 'spin painting,' which he loved, before focusing on gardening again.

what was a key moment?

There have been lots of positives during Ewan and Laura's sessions, but some stand out moments were Ewan's use of creativity to use a washing up bowl as a planter for their strawberries when they ran out of room for them, and Ewan wanting to get involved in volunteering at a local allotment or garden.

what progress has been made?

Ewan's progress shows:

"Moderate progress" in **Participation and Engagement** (improving from a 3/5 – 5/5), **Motivation** (improving from a 2/5 – 4/5) and **Problem Solving** (improving from a 3/5 – 5/5).

"Some progress" in **Confidence** (improving from a 4/5 – 5/5), **Teamwork** (improving from a 3/5 – 4/5), **Idea Generation** (improving from a 3/5 – 4/5) and **Self-Belief** (improving from a 3/5 – 4/5).

We can see that Ewan's confidence and creativity is really flourishing. He has been taking responsibility for the plants they have been growing and is extremely proud of the work he has done. Ewan has lots of positive plans that have come about as a result of the Creative Mentoring sessions.

background

Ewan was 16 years old at the time of referral and was a child in care with additional needs. There was a concern for him as, due to a placement move, he had no school place for his next school year and SEND were struggling to find a suitable provision for him. It was hoped that Creative Mentoring would provide some structure alongside other provisions in place, whilst also supporting Ewan with his own needs.

who was Ewan matched with?

Laura was the Creative Mentor we matched with Ewan. Laura is a very talented Creative Mentor with a variety of skills including Arts & Crafts and Visual Arts. We felt Laura would be a good match due to Ewan's interests and the fact that she has worked well previously with similar mentees. Laura has a very nurturing and calm temperament we felt would work well with Ewan.

what happened next?

Laura and Ewan had a positive first session, chatting about their interests and getting straight into making some snails out of modelling clay and planting some vegetables for the garden.