



Archie's story*

Find out how Creative Mentoring supported Archie* to build confidence and self-esteem by exploring his interest in law through sewing and museum visits.

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

"Archie was clearly thinking about the development of ideas between sessions, and it is wonderful to see that he felt confident to steer the sessions."

Sue*, Creative Mentor

"Archie and Sue's time together was a great example of how Creative Mentoring can help a young person turn their hobbies into a way to learn new creative skills."

Supporting Adult

"I have realised you don't have to just please other people, you have to also think of yourself."

Archie*, Young Mentee



social justice for young people

through arts, culture and creativity

the **mighty** creatives



It transpired that Archie was particularly interested in law, and this formed the basis of their sessions. Together, Sue and Archie used a sewing machine to make a judge's cloak, a sash and a flag for his school council. Sue was overjoyed to see how Archie's confidence grew with sewing – especially when he persevered when the thread snapped!

what was a key moment?

Archie and Sue's final session together was a trip to the National Justice Museum in Nottingham. Together, they joined in with the immersive "court room", and even the actors at the museum couldn't believe the intuitive and reflective questions Archie asked. To top the visit off, Archie was wearing his cloak, sash and hat! Sue felt this was special, to see Archie be so proud of what he made.

what progress has been made?

Archie's progress shows:

"Making great progress" in **Communication** (improving from 5/10 to 8/10), **Self- belief** (improving from a 4/10 to 7/10), **Relationship Building** (improving from a 5/10 to 8/10), **Motivation** (improving from a 6/10 to 9/10), **Participation and Engagement** (improving from 6/10 to 9/10), **Resilience** (improving from 3/10 to 7/10) and **Agency** (improving from 4/10 to 8/10),

"Starting to make progress" in **Teamwork** (improving from a 6/10 – 8/10), **Creativity** (improving from a 7/10 – 9/10) and **Emotional Wellbeing** (improving from a 6/10 – 8/10).

Archie's scores reflect clear progress in all areas – which is a wonderful achievement. It was also particularly significant that Archie was able to reflect on what he had learned himself, and be proud of himself too, supported by Sue and the adults around him. We wish Archie all the best for the future and hope things continue to go well at his new school.



background

Archie was 15 years old when he was referred for Creative Mentoring. He had been out of education for a significant period of time and was shortly going to be starting at a new school. This would, of course, be a big change for Archie. The professionals around Archie hoped that Creative Mentoring would support him with this upcoming change by building his confidence, self-belief and encouraging him to explore his interests in a 1:1 setting.

who was Archie matched with?

Archie was matched with Sue, a Creative Mentor with lots of experience of supporting young people to explore their own individual passions and interests. Archie's referral stated that he would work better with a Creative Mentor with a nurturing approach – this matched Sue's gentle and kind nature perfectly.

what happened next?

On their first meeting, Archie was understandably a little nervous. But once Sue explained to him that she was there to support his creativity and his interests, Archie soon relaxed. He was particularly taken when he spotted that Sue had a map in her bag – knowing that this was something Archie was interested in! From there, Archie relaxed into Sue's company and their time together was extremely positive.