

Transition to college, employment and adulthood - Learner Journeys

Cedars Academy Cluster



Cedars Academy: June 2013

Josh: Learner Profile & Journey

Background

Josh has a Statement of Special Educational Needs as he experiences significantly greater difficulty with learning than most young people his age as a result of his severe learning, communication, developmental and sensory difficulties. Josh has a diagnosis of Kabuki Syndrome. Josh requires a safe and secure environment with specialist and experienced staff support to enable him to continue to fully access the curriculum and to address his key skills and independence difficulties in particular.

Cedars Academy has developed an Employability and Enterprise Programme targeted at a number of young people currently experiencing difficulty accessing the curriculum fully. The purpose of the programme is to stimulate interest and relevant experience in an enterprise project. A central aim of the programme is to develop raised awareness of the business sector by working with young people to explore the ways in which they can contribute to the organisation and running of a small enterprise. The curriculum provides learners with the opportunity to learn within a vocational environment and puts them in a position to benefit from post 16 learning opportunities and ultimately employment. Key to the programme is providing learners with the opportunity to experience learning in a different setting/environment which includes a diverse range of other learners and young people.

It is intended that the programme would also ease transition to further education and training and provide a good bridge between school and education/training based in a larger college setting, for which Josh is not yet fully prepared.

Aspirations, life/key/basic skills, achievements, participation, attitude and motivation

In July 2012 Josh transferred to Joseph Swan Technology College as a Year 12 student in the Joseph Swan/Cedars partnership 6th Form. Josh felt he was not ready to go to college and wanted time to develop his key skills to prepare for the transition into college.

Josh is undertaking the following accreditation this academic year: NOCN Functional Skills qualification in Literacy at Entry Level 3, NOCN Functional Skills qualification in Numeracy at Entry Level 3, NOCN Functional Skills qualification in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) at Entry Level 3, NOCN Entry Level 3 Certificate in Skills Towards Enabling Progression (Step-Up), NOCN Entry Level 3 Introduction to Enterprise and Employability and Personal Development Award Level 1.

In developing his employability skills Josh has worked well in team activities. Josh was an excellent help to his team when it came to calculating the cost of making and selling his product, in order to make a profit.

Curriculum Development/Collaborate Working/ Learner and Parent Voice

Josh was good at handling money and problem solving when selling his teams products at the fair. Josh worked well in his team. He played an equal role when making their products. He helped persuade the Dragons to back their project. Josh was able to think of different ways that his team could sell all of their products in the future so they could make a profit. Josh behaves well in class. He co-operates with the tasks he has been asked to carry out. Josh sometimes distracts others and needs to be more focused on his own work.

Josh has enjoyed working with the others in the Supporting Opportunities for All (SOFA) group to decide on social activities. He has enjoyed the visits to the cinema, bowling and the meal that the group had together and intends to continue attending the SOFA Social Network Group next year. Josh has carried out work experience in the school garden as part of his Enterprise Project. He assisted in developing the garden into a teaching and enterprise environment; he has been involved in making group decisions regarding the development of the garden and the introduction of teaching and learning areas within the grounds. Next year Josh hopes to gain work experience in the school as a football coach to the younger children in KS1&2.

Josh’s Plans for next year

Josh has enrolled on his second year at Cedars/Joseph Swan 6th Form. He would like to continue to develop his confidence in key skills and also develop his ability around communication and life skills. In the longer term Josh plans to go to Sunderland College of FE, his local mainstream FE college.

Signed:..... (student) Date: