

Person-centered project

**If you would like further
information about the project
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Local Person-Centred Further Education in Cumbria

Beaumont College in Carlisle

The Beaumont College in Carlisle project was set up in 2012 in response to a learners request for specialist person-centred further education through personal programmes in the Carlisle area.

The project developed through partnership working with The Head Teacher at James Rennie School and the Principal at Beaumont College.

Beaumont College is a Beacon College and was awarded Outstanding across all areas in the Ofsted Inspection of 2009.

James Rennie School was awarded Outstanding across all areas in their Ofsted Inspection of 2011

Scope is a national charity: 'about changing society for the better, so that disabled people and their families can have the same opportunities as everyone else'.

Learner Voice

The project uses a person-centred approach which means that each student is encouraged to explore their future life aspirations and then determine a course of study that will support their personal aims.

This leads to the learners having a personal timetable of subjects that they have chosen; through which literacy, numeracy, ICT, communication and therapy goals and targets are set, this aims to support the development of the whole person in subjects which the learners can naturally achieve and find success.

Much of the work is undertaken in the community; many links across Carlisle have already been made and these are expected to increase as the project grows. The learners are now regularly using the library, art gallery, leisure centre, museum, local supermarkets and local areas of environmental interest to inform their learning.

The learners have 'Now' Cards so that they can use the local bus services and increase their community access as part of their personal learning programmes

Learners' using local community venues during their time at college has increased the community presence of young people with complex needs in Carlisle. One of the aims of the project is to support the learners to find their voice and become active citizens within their local community.

In the longer term the learners may be invited to contribute to any capacity building plans that Cumbria considers for people young adults with complex disabilities in the future.

Outcomes

The impact of the project has been incredibly positive for the learners currently accessing the service. They will continue until July and will seek funding for another year with the support of Inspira and the local authority.

The success of the project has also been very welcome by Cumbria County Council. This project contributes to their aims of providing effective high quality services to disabled people in their own communities. This has attracted interest from five other young people who wish to access the service, and who have applied through the College admission process.

Beaumont College in Carlisle is a new project which brings specialist further education to young adults with complex needs living in North Cumbria.