



## The Manchester College

### Project Search and Learning Disability Traineeships

#### Organisation

The Manchester College is a further education provider which came into existence in 2008, following the merger of City College Manchester and Manchester College of Arts and Technology (MANCAT). It delivers a wide range of courses and is based at a number of sites across the city.

The College has contracts to deliver learning and skills for the Offender Learning and Skills Service (OLASS) in over 80 establishments across six regions in England.

#### Our approach

The college, Pure Innovations and Central Manchester Hospital Trust entered into a partnership after receiving six days of training from the American originators of the model. During the first year Pure Innovations paid for job coach costs; we met with YPLA to establish funding would be claimable thro ALS to fund job coach and extra support and tuition hours.

We also liaised with Manchester Learning Difficulty Partnership who contributed some funding. We had to convince senior vice principals of the value of the project to young people, and to society in general with regard to the cost savings for the future ie YP not claiming benefits. We outlined a number of the benefits in our proposal/outcome paper attached (1a)

#### The outcome and impact of the work

There are numerous positive outcomes for the learners, the college and the wider community. For learners the outcomes are huge as many trainees have gained paid employment, most within the hospital, one with Laing O'Rourke, one in voluntary work. Many trainees have gained a qualification at E3 (Personal Progress thro' Employment) which has been a real boost for learners and the college and has also done lots to promote the work of the college. A detailed breakdown of benefits is outlined in the paper attached at 1a 'Benefits of PS'.

For more information on this project visit [www.traineeships.cmft.nhs.uk](http://www.traineeships.cmft.nhs.uk)

Overview prepared by Jane Pudney, Divisional Lead Manager for Learners with Learning Disabilities at The Manchester College March 2012