

# Active Tameside Challenging Behaviours

## What have we done?

Active Tameside value supported challenging behaviours or individual's needs of challenging behaviours through different projects ran with different schools and groups. We carefully plan different projects to meet the individual needs of each person taking part in our projects. Active Tameside people listen to the needs of the individuals and ensure that care is shaped accordingly.

It is evident that those in a caring, supportive role, play a fundamental part in reducing challenging behaviour. This is based on core ingredients including:

- giving our people time to build a relationship with the person/group being supported
- enabling a sense of emotional and physical safety and self-determination
- Using humour and emotional sensitivity, as appropriate, to enable skilled, positive communication.

The recruitment of our people with the right values towards supportive care, is highlighted as being absolutely imperative. Investment in our people training, regarding emotional awareness and behavioural capabilities, has been successful in many of the different projects we have run. Skills have been enhanced through different in house training courses and external training courses.

Active Tameside have invested heavily in different behaviour frameworks and behaviour training program for all the people in our organisation. There is subsequent evidence of reduced incidents of challenging behaviour and the enhanced capability of staff that has led to positive cultural change.

## How has it been successful?

### Denton Community College

1. We have been working in partnership with Denton Community College, who had a group of children in Year 9 who had repeatedly been in trouble. The group had all been suspended in the last half term and had all had a period of outreach support in a behaviour modification unit. Hayley Duffy, Head of Communities for DCC, contacted Active Tameside to see if we could arrange a program to engage and help improve behaviours. Therefore we arranged for the group of children to be taken offsite to engage in a Sports Leadership course on a Monday morning and to set individual targets for the rest of the week; if the individuals met their target, Active Tameside would reward the group with a team building, fun engaging session at the end of the week. Through the success of the project, we saw a massive drop in the children's time in the behaviour modification unit, no

children were suspended throughout and all the group were engaged in curriculum lessons.

2. Denton Community College also had a problem with a group of girls whose attendance was falling below national average. In liaison with the college, we put together a project to help improve the girls' attendance through different and engaging 'Climbasize' sessions:

Project Name- This Girl Can

Targets- To increase punctuality and attendance and to lower negative behaviour points for year 9 girls.

### **Outcomes**

- 100% of the identified cohort participated in the course (25 Year 9 girls).
- 100% weekly attendance on the This Girl Can project over the 6 weeks.
- The students involved were identified from the Go 4 Schools system and the negative behaviour points individually and for the Year cohort.
- The cohort contributed to 50% of the negative points; after the course this had reduced to 15% negative points for the Year cohort.
- 100% of the individual students negative Go points reduced by 35% +.
- 97% of the cohort attendance improved and overall punctuality was 100%.

### **Feedback from Denton Community College:**

In our opinion we feel that the "This Girl Can" project has had a real impact on both the behaviour and attendance of the students taking part in the sessions. Prior to these students being on the Creative Curriculum programme they have been the highest point earners in their year groups (negative behaviour points). We believe that the programme has given them a focus and raised aspirations and achievement in our school community. Prior to the programme the cohort of students were difficult to manage and the implementation of the course had a positive impact on the students overall behaviour. I believe it has made the girls more focused in lessons allowing learning to take place for all students in curriculum time.

### **Works 4 U**

Active Tameside also runs challenging behaviour projects in partnership with Works 4 U, ISP group (the IPS group is a disability group who are not in education). We run two groups of disadvantaged students across the year, teaching them important outdoor education needs and promoting active lifestyles. Additionally, we teach them the importance of living a healthy lifestyle through a pathway into different sports sessions. Due to the time spent on organising the sessions and the time spent training and engaging staff appropriately, the project was a huge success: four of the Works 4 U students have progressed onto our internship program and two are now Active Tameside employees.