



Activity Agreements Opportunities for All



Tailored support helps vulnerable young person

Hannah is 16 and after experiencing abuse at a young age found both primary and secondary education very challenging, eventually disengaging in S3.

Hannah was bullied at school. Her lack of confidence and self-esteem spiralled into anxiety attacks, anger issues and she self-harmed.

Hannah was discussed at a school Joint Action Agency Team as being at risk and of grave concern. The school, through encouragement from the Opportunities for All (OfA) Co-ordinator, referred Hannah to an Activity Agreement.

Hannah was allocated a Trusted Professional who met with her weekly to start an initial assessment of need. In this encouraging and supportive environment Hannah was able to articulate what her hopes and dreams were, although had no idea she was capable of achieving anything.

Hannah hoped to become an accountant but didn't think she would ever achieve this as she hadn't gained any school qualifications. It was clear that attending college wouldn't be an option for Hannah, as those who had bullied her attend the local college now. So the Trusted Professional investigated other alternatives to learning and gaining relevant qualifications.

Interalia is a local private training centre and an approved ILA provider, specialising in computing, IT, SAGE and Bookkeeping distance learning courses. The accreditation attached to their courses is nationally recognised in the business world. Hannah was introduced to the idea of studying through Interalia at home as part of her Activity Agreement, with a tutor to support her. She started the Bookkeeping Level 1 course in August and has nearly completed it.

Hannah was also referred to Penumbra where she met weekly with a support worker who provided one-to-one emotional support.

Hannah's lack of confidence continued to hold her back but she was keen to get some work experience to allow her to put into practice what she was learning. The Trusted Professional investigated work experience options and recommended applying, with support, for a Community Job Scotland vacancy through the local Social Enterprise Chamber, working in an office environment with Encompass. Hannah was very uncertain of her ability but did apply and was offered an interview. Her Trusted Professional supported her to prepare for the interview and she was successful.

Hannah started the work placement but stayed on her Activity Agreement for the first couple of weeks, as she still doubted herself.

Hannah has now completed her Activity Agreement and is gaining experience in three different job roles throughout the week, supported through the Community Jobs Scotland Fund. She has also applied to start her SAGE Accounting course.

"Hannah's Activity Agreement has given her the tailored support required to progress her into a positive destination, this type of provision is invaluable for young people like Hannah who require one to one support to realise their own potential". Gillian Millar, SDS Career Coach

"The Activity Agreement has helped me realise what I can achieve and just from talking to someone who wants to help. I am now a lot more confident and have been given the help I needed to start my career". Hannah