

# A learner's journey through **Activity Agreements**

---



**Falkirk Council**

**A**ll young people on an Activity Agreement in Falkirk have a tailor made programme specifically developed according to their needs and ability. Their programme is also built around where, when and how often they want to participate. Within this flexibility there is a clear focus on the young person's progression towards more formal learning, training or employment; with participation increasing and becoming more challenging as they progress through the programme.

CW was referred to the Activity Agreement service from a special education unit. He has cerebral palsy and uses a wheelchair.

An initial meeting was held with CW and his mother to assess suitability and discuss any special requirements or adjustments that would need to be made to enable his participation. This initial meeting with his mother was crucial to the success of CW's engagement. His mother was anxious about how he would cope and be accepted due to his disability. She was also worried about his integration into a mainstream provision.

Initially, CW did not know what his long term goals were as he did not think that he was able to work or participate in further education. His mother encouraged him to think that he was unable to have a career due to his disabilities. His main outcome for his Activity Agreement was to increase his confidence and social skills and gain independence. An Activity Agreement plan was created following an assessment of his strengths, interests and needs. CW's trusted professional ensured that his participation had a clear focus on progression towards employment.

CW participated in a range of learning experiences including cooking, arts, graffiti art, outdoor activities and employability skills workshops. He enjoyed being with other young people and his confidence increased as he gained new skills and independence. CW's trusted professional supported him, through regular one-to-one sessions, to believe in his ability to move towards employment and identify a suitable pathway.

Working with CW was a huge learning curve for the staff and the relationship and trust built with CW's mother was crucial to the success

of his engagement. She also gave invaluable advice on specialist equipment required to support his learning.

The flexibility of the Activity Agreement model allowed CW to progress at his own pace and move on when he was ready. This took 12 months.

Towards the end of his agreement CW was so confident in his new found ability that he participated in his Activity Agreement programme without using his wheel chair. He also completed a bronze Youth Achievement Award and has now moved onto a further education course.

**2017**

**Ensuring the Activity Agreement model strikes the right balance of initial soft engagement combined with a motivating, resilient, progressive approach.**