

## **X's Story.**

X was a bubbly member of the group. Very polite and listened intently to what adults and others had to say, and contributed to discussions appropriately. A member of the group who is really caring, thoughtful and extremely passionate. X is a young carer. This project allowed X to be them self, allowing them to follow dreams and to 'Think Big.'

One of the first things I did with the group was for them to pick out their key strengths, the things that made them who they are. We then repeated that at the end of the project and the strengths that X chose this time demonstrated a deeper understanding of the strengths they had and they explored these ideas with so much more confidence; they truly believed the things that they were writing. They have been on an incredible journey; developed and changed so much.

Comparing the Outcomes Star, X is now much more confident in looking at ways to keep themselves feeling happy and thinking about their own wellbeing. X explained that they feel that they have more confidence to ask for help and support when feeling sad, and their teacher would agree that they are talking more about feelings. This is reinforced with them scoring themselves highly when asked about their ability to ask for help and support. X believes they have high levels of confidence and high levels of aspirations and motivation; X believes they can access resources very well and they try really hard when faced with a new challenge or task. I totally agree with X's opinions and feel that they are much more confident, have improved social and communication skills and are highly motivated to achieve.

X has been passionate about their project from day 1 – determined about what they wanted to do and that passion has driven them throughout the project and they were still focused at the end of the project. X planned the project independently, taking into consideration advice from other adults and peers. As the project progressed, X became much more confident when talking to other adults through zoom and face to face, asking for tips and opinions. It has been amazing to watch this confidence grow and social skills develop.

The whole team developed a fundraising activity together, each taking on board different roles and responsibilities. X showed great leadership skills in this event and had everyone very organised but the real highlight was to see X being part of the team; socialising more and having fun with peers. X has started to be more included and this had also been noticed on the playground by the teacher.

A climax of the project was the Dragon Den style event where the young people had to present a PowerPoint presentation to the rest of year 6 and a panel of judges in order to win a slice of the funding pot. X spoke with such passion and confidence. As a result, X was awarded the money needed to develop the project further. And even better, received additional donations in order to make their project a real success. Confidence and determination grew and X started to feel really successful; they were so proud of themselves.

X is ready for secondary school; X feels ready and told me how excited they were about the future. X has said that they are going to continue fundraising so their project will continue to be successful; X is dedicated enough to make that happen. X also wants to help raise money for other charities X is passionate about. X is currently attending a new group at a local community centre, which is continuing to fuel the passion and determination for this project to further develop.

Since the project X has been engaging within her local community with community gardening schemes and clubs and she has also been attending clubs and activities after school in the secondary school she moved onto. It is reported to me, that X is confident, has a positive group of friends and is thriving in Year 7. She has also maintained a positive relationship with one of the community superheroes who she met through the project and speaks with her on a weekly basis about her achievement in and out of school. We are really proud to hear how X has continued to flourish.

X has promised to change the world... and I think X will.