

## Past Student Success



Congratulations to:

Jack Murdoch:

In writing this article it gives me no surprise but a great deal of pride to share the successes of this young man. Jack is a year 11 student who has developed a skilled range of techniques for dealing with his previously challenging behaviours. When I first met Jack he had just started Year 11 and was struggling to find a way to settle to work in lessons and searching for the structure he so desired to achieve the potential he was well aware he had in him. The changes to Keystage 4, I believe, offered him the routine, boundaries and framework in which to develop his own practice and over the course of the year gradually Jack became fully engaged in the bigger picture of achieving the stepping stone goals along the journey towards the final exams.

This was not a 'pain free' route to success, there were trip hazards along the way but we worked together, Jack, his mum and staff to keep working on the consistency of practice needed and the firmness of boundaries against which Jack would push at times. As the year rolled on together we saw the small steps grow, confidence build and this intelligent, funny, caring, hard working young man shared his mature mentoring approach more often than not.

Jack only had to ask once if he could undertake a work experience placement at our Keystage 3 site. Yes of course he could! Younger students have gained great benefit from working with Jack and have him support them in making changes to their behaviours, engagement to learning and attitudes socially. Watching the relationships grow between students looking up to Jack and accepting his advice and ideas and Jack checking his own boundaries to ensure he provides quality support has been inspirational and is indeed just one of the many reasons we work with these amazing students in the first place.

Thank you Jack for wanting to give back to our environment and the people in it and this journey isn't over yet.

Sue Beauchamp

Head Teacher