



West Lothian
Council

Going Forward – West Lothian Council Skills Training Programme Case Study

Since May 2017, Fast Forward's Going Forward team has worked with over 30 organisations, across Edinburgh and the Lothians, to deliver 260 group - work sessions for high-tariff, vulnerable and at-risk young people. One organisation that we have worked with is the West Lothian Council Skills Training Programme. Read on to find out more from Miriam Georgeson, Skills Training Programme Officer.

Can you tell us a bit about what Skills Training Programme does?

The Skills Training Programme is a stage 3 employability programme for young people aged 16 to 19 with two or more barriers to employment. It is jointly funded by the European Social Fund and West Lothian Council and offers accredited training and work experience placements primarily within council services. It offers support for up to 26 weeks to build confidence and experience to enable each young person to make the transition to a job or further training or college.

How did you find out about Going Forward?

Initially through an email sent on by colleagues about training sessions available.

How have the Going Forward sessions integrated with the work that you already deliver?

It fits in really well with our holistic approach to developing the young people we work with. Equipping them with knowledge to make considered choices and also to challenge their belief systems.

What did you particularly like about the sessions?

The Fast Forward staff are excellent in their approach and knowledge and are always engaging. The feedback from the young people on the Going Forward sessions is always very positive.

What sort of impact do you think the sessions have had on the young people that you support?

Our young people are always surprised and excited by the discussions round the topics and the range of opinions and beliefs.

Would you recommend Going Forward to another organisation?

I already have, and would do so again, as I really love the professional approach and delivery pitched at just the right level for each different group they have delivered to.

Want to find out more about Going Forward?

To find out more about the Going Forward project, or discuss ways in which Going Forward could work with your organisation to develop and deliver a programme of sessions tailored to the specific needs of the young people that you support, simply e-mail the team, or give us a call.

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