

Building Confidence

A long term approach



The Challenge

In previous years SCRCP has worked with older students(16+) at Hazelcourt Further Education College. We were now invited to provide ITTT for the secondary school which has given us the opportunity to create a through programme from KS4 to FE.

The pupils at Hazelcourt have a variety of communication, physical and emotional needs which meant accessing independent travel was difficult.

As a part of the life skills curriculum though it was important that the pupils (aged 14/15) were given the opportunity to practice travelling on public transport in preparation for a future work or study.

Previously to this the majority of pupils had been used to travelling only in cars and minibuses.

Hazelcourt Secondary Special School is based in a joint campus with Causeway Secondary School in Eastbourne and they work hard to create life skill building opportunities for their pupils. Hazelcourt aims for Independence and preparation for life after school through challenging but realistic teaching and learning opportunities to develop self-esteem

What we did

This was the first year we have worked with the secondary school but we felt it was important to be able to reach students at this younger age, further work could then be carried out in the Further Education College that nearly all of the students would progress to.

A programme suited to the learners was devised taking into account the pupils needs and the inexperience of staff in travelling by public transport with the pupils. To build confidence we started with a trip from Hampden Park to Eastbourne Station. This short trip was perfect to allow pupils and teachers to try out what they had learnt in the classroom workshops. It gave confidence to staff that pupils could learn coping strategies in this new environment and encouraged them to try again.

After speaking to staff it was decided in this coming academic year to repeat aspects of the workshops and Try a Train more regularly (aiming for 3x a year) This should build more confidence in both staff and pupils where previously one workshop and one trip could not. Possible parent/child workshops and Try a Trains are planned to help increase parental confidence too.

Key Facts



All students asked for their own tickets
 "Child return to Eastbourne please!"



100% positive feedback



100% would like to travel again



Perfect for our students!



I liked the train trip



For more information contact Catherine Simmons catherine@sussexcrp.org

07375531987



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