

CashBack for Communities Youth Work Fund

Project Spotlights

Organisation Name: Aberdeenshire Council

Project Name: Peterhead CLD Freshstart

Awarded Amount: £5965.00

1. Tell us about the work of your organisation (100-200 words)

The CLD service sits within the wider Education and Children's Service and aims to meet the expectations set by the CLD Standards Council for Scotland. Young people in Aberdeenshire, have access to appropriate learning experience and opportunities that make a difference and enable those with more challenges to overcome and enhance their life chances and reach their full potential as active members of the community

2. Tell us about your CashBack project (100-200 words)

Fresh start is a project geared at supporting young people who need to access alternative learning opportunities, to build on skills, allowing them to develop their confidence and learning through more informal and practical settings, The project provides a platform for young people to grow in confidence, improve self-esteem, personal awareness, and development, while we provide a variety of learning opportunities for those who want to attend. This project provides young people with fun and engaging activities enabling young people to apply their own learning styles, enhance their life skills and broaden their perspectives. During the project we fully include young people in the decision making and development of the project and listen to their ideas, supporting them to set and achieve their goals. They have opportunities to take part in various experiential learning activities indoors and outdoors. There is a focus this year on outdoor learning and how this can have a positive impact on the mental well-being of young people and how we can support and use their creative thinking to work on activities that are purposeful and have meaning to our young people.

3. How is it going so far? (100-200 words)

Project is going well, we have between 18 and 22 pupils engaging in weekly sessions, activities include basic cooking skills, outdoor learning opportunities, sailing, orienteering, wilderness skills, outdoor cooking, environmental sessions, wild spaces, tree planting, upcycling, building wildlife boxes etc. We recently had our 1st trip of 3, to Lochter activity centre, where the group took part in 4 activities, Rifle Shooting, Archery, Buggy Driving and Go Karting, this was a great experience for the group, everyone had a great time

4. What impact do you hope it will have? (100-200 words)

For young people to have a positive experience through learning opportunities in this project.

Building self-esteem, confidence, and resilience.

To gain and achieve accreditation through a more relaxed and informal setting

Young people thriving in a different or alternative environment improving life chances

Increased attendance

5. Any highlights that you can share? (100-200 words)

Increased confidence in participation and engagement

Regular attendance and commitment to learning

Being part of a team and improved sense of belonging

Eagerness to continue to be part of this style of learning

To date 10 young people have achieved their Level 1 in Sailing. 9 have completed the Discovery level for John Muir and some are now working towards the Explorer level

6. How important is CashBack funding generally for your work with young people? (100-200 words)

Funding from Cash back is vital if we are to offer young people more opportunities to take part in outdoor and adventurous activities, we would otherwise not be able to provide. The impact from young people engaging in these is immeasurable when you see their reactions and increased confidence levels which improve life skills and opportunities