

Case Study

Dyma Ni

RAY Ceredigion

Background

Dyma Ni was a pilot project aimed to support disabled people between 17-30 years old. The project emerged out of a perceived gap in support for young people with disabilities in Ceredigion. Presently, as young people with disabilities reach the age of 18 there is a reduction in available support that facilitates social integration.

Participant 6

As part of the report produced by Wavehill, 3 individual case studies were created. Each has been chosen to represent some key aspects of the project, as well as for an illustration of impacts and outcomes which have resulted from being part of Dyma Ni.

The support worker for Participant 6 noted that they love attending Dyma Ni, with the project staff making it fun and interactive for them and all participants. Moreover, they highlighted how the project has helped to develop the participant's conversational and social skills greatly. They feel that being part of a group has helped them to have a safe and informal environment in which to develop:

"I think the biggest thing is the relationship with the people who work there. They're so interactive all the time. And the other people in his group, it's the only place he knows them from and in a short session when doing stuff, he interacts with most of them. He just likes the people who do it. If he talks about it, they're the first thing he talks about. They're so amenable to him. He has always needed coaxing into do the things they do, but the fact that they have managed to get him to make all these things to take back to his grandma is fantastic. It's always fun for him. It's been a great club for him. All of his developmental things have been on speech, conversational and confidence."

Dyma Ni has allowed Participant 6 to develop confidence in the new skills developed through the project and their support worker noted that the trust given to the participant to be allowed to try new things and the independence for them to develop have been of huge impact:



"His conversational and social skills have come on leaps and bounds. All the activities they do open up the developmental stuff ... he's been really happy to be part of the group."

The support worker for Participant 6 explained how the relatives of the participant are all proud of their achievements through the group and more widely as a result:

"His grandmother has been so proud of him. The impact on his whole family has been great, to see how far he's come on... we delivered the portfolio to his very elderly grandmother. He gets so excited about it and talks in a way you can't really understand what he's saying, which is lovely to see because he usually says when asked what he's done, "Not much"."

They explained that they are developing their independence further by working with the participant on catching a bus to Aberaeron for Dyma Ni.

During the COVID-19 lockdown the support worker stated how the participant missed the group and how it hampered setting targets and portfolio work within Dyma Ni. However, they noted that without Dyma Ni altogether the participant would likely experience a 'slump' in their progression, and that there is little out there — similar to Dyma Ni — that offers support to young people.

They concluded by stating that Dyma Ni is such a positive and happy environment, which is inclusive of all its members and generates a sense of group belonging and comfort for all of those who attend:

"He found it so easy to join in and not be rejected by a whole load of people. He can get hurt quite easily if you say anything mean-sounding or raise a voice. There's a lot of laughter and jokes there. Whether they get it or not, I don't know, but it's genuinely a really happy atmosphere there. Even if someone is down, it wears off quick enough. It's a thoroughly good club all round. I have to say as well that their vulnerability is so respected there — there's no dodgy vibes at all."



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