

The Enthusiasm Trust - Derby Homes Mentoring Programme

Case Study – Billy (anonymised) Youth Worker – Mel Nwokolo

Background and context

Billy was referred on to the Mentoring programme in October last year. This was due to complaints that he was giving verbal abuse to residents on his street.

Billy struggles with school and is often excluded due to behaviour.

He lives with Mum, Mums partner and 3 sisters. Home life is chaotic and unstable for the most part. There have been reports of Domestic Violence and they now have Social Care involvement.

What has Enthusiasm done?

Billy engages every week – he is either seen in school or out of the family home. Enthusiasm are in close partnership with his school and are able to challenge Billy's behaviour. Several action plans have been put in place with Billy's involvement, one of these is around school and respecting the teachers. We also put short term goals in place such as not getting excluded for one month and having some sort of reward for achieving this.

We have been working through a mental and emotional health tool kit to help Billy recognise his emotions and to give him strategies on how to deal with them. Billy suffers from anger issues and this quite often manifests itself in verbal aggression.

We work closely with his family and are looking to put some family rules in place. Whilst we were discussing these rules it came to light that his Mums partner uses amphetamines in the home and he has allegedly hit Billy and his sister – So there is currently a section 47 in place.

Enthusiasm has supported Billy through this by contacting the police and social care and also supporting him practically by collecting clothes and taking him to his Aunties.

What has been the successes?

Billy knows he can talk to any of the staff here at Enthusiasm. His attendance has slightly improved at school and there has been a drop in ASB complaints about Billy.

He engages really well, and we have no issue in seeing him.

Billy has just signed up to the Derby Homes Youth Board which is something he is excited to get involved with.

Any drawbacks & how these have been addressed?

There has been some conflict between Mum and Youth workers due to a disclosure from Billy. This has been resolved – Mum was given space and then Youth Workers spoke to her and she was calm and understood why it had to happen.

Current situation and future plan

In the current situation, Enthusiasm will continue to support Billy and work in partnership with all agencies involved.

We will continue to be a constant support in Billy's life, helping to reduce school exclusions and ASB in the area.