

## BURSARY REPORT

Dear Paul,

Thank you for supporting Snow Camp's bursary programme.

We believe that there is huge potential in using the power and appeal of snowsports, as well as the mountain environment, to challenge and support the young people we work with. Everything we do is rooted in the challenges of young people who are living in the most deprived areas of the UK. This includes young people who are not in education, employment or training, those who have been affected by knife and gang crime, have behavioural and emotional needs or have faced social inequality.

Each year, our young people work with us to develop and deliver a training programme that provides them with life changing opportunities to learn a new sport, work towards qualifications and find careers in the snowsports industry and beyond. It's a unique form of training, since the training provided can only be received by those who share similar experiences. It's a model that works and one that we have worked tirelessly to promote over the last 15 years.

This year, we have worked with over 800 young people nationally on our summer First Tracks Programme. Over 200 young people then moved on to our Graduate Programme in October and we are pleased to let you know that over 80 young people have now moved on to our instructor programme, Excel, including Paris McLeggan-Milner.

We are delighted to share with you your first bursary report highlighting the incredible journey Paris is now on thanks to your support. Thank you and we hope you enjoy reading the report below.

## PARIS MCLEGGAN-MILNER

AGE: 18

FROM: VAUXHALL, LONDON

SPORT: SKIING

REFERRED BY: BIG KID

FOUNDATION



"I am a care leaver and currently live alone but I am thinking of going back home as financially I want to be stable before making these bold decisions. I am currently on a sports apprenticeship with Hands for Youth by YMCA and I like spending my time being a positive influence on young people. I was given this opportunity because I spend most of my time trying to be a positive role model."

"My biggest challenge so far has been moving out and learning to live alone without being dependent on other people, this was a really big step for me and I have really enjoyed it but I think the right choice for me right now would be to move back home."

"I really enjoy trying new things and I see myself as adventurous. I would never be able to afford this myself. I really like the fact that Snow Camp shares the same values as me. I like to help those that find it hard to help themselves, but also to help those that really need it. I like positive change."

"I was really looking forward to meeting new people and making new friends, I spent a lot of time on the Graduate Programme in my own bubble with my youth project. I really wanted to push myself to meet new people. I am a very observant person and I love mixing with different personalities. I am up for any challenge, and I think that skiing is a really big challenge, but I have enjoyed every minute of it. I also like the fact I have been able to work on my fear of heights."

"I would like to say a massive thank you to Newland Construction for helping me get to this point, I am really grateful for the opportunity you have given me and also allowing me to leave the country for the first time.

You have opened a lot of doors for me especially because without this bursary my youth project would not have been able to support this step. I have created new friendships and my confidence has boosted so much. I have been able to gather skills that I can take home with me and use in my own youth work journey.

So again, thank you for making this happen."



Paris began our Excel Programme in February. It's a hugely exciting time for Paris who will now take part in 10 weeks of advanced snowsports training with assessment by Snowsport England, which includes 20 hours shadowing their instructors during a 9-day residential to Italy, her first experience of real mountains and her first time abroad. The programme includes life-skills sessions throughout which will focus on career opportunities, working with young people and the theory of teaching snowsports. Young people receive a Snowsport England Instructor qualification and First Aid and Safeguarding certificates.

It is at this point in the Snow Camp programme journey that the young people become an integral part of the development, delivery and monitoring of Snow Camp programmes becoming young leaders and ambassadors for the charity. When a young person completes Excel and gains an instructor qualification, they then volunteer by teaching the next cohort of young people on First Tracks the following summer. As well as being empowering for them, it's inspirational for the new young people who they may already know from their youth club or estate, showing them exactly what can be achieved in one year at Snow Camp.

We look forward to updating you on Paris's progress.

## THANK YOU

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