

Case Study

Norwich Opportunity Area
Schools Mentoring Project
July 2020



Norwich
Opportunity Area

UTCN
University Technical
College Norfolk

Simon's Story



Simon heard about Your Own Place mentoring at his workplace. He wanted to offer a young person support using his life and work experience so signed up to attend the 2 day training course.

Simon's management style fit really well with YOP's asset based and restorative approach and he was excited to get started.

“ I was told that my mentee struggled to say anything positive about himself in the group session so I was a little nervous, but also excited, to use the asset based approach to see if he would be able to talk positively about anything he had achieved. ”

What did we do?

Initially Simon was matched to his mentee, T, by a YOP worker. Simon and T, from University Technical College (UTC), then met once a week for an hour. This was possible thanks to funding from Norwich Opportunities Area.

Throughout the relationship Simon was supported by a Your Own Place Mentoring Support Worker.

Unfortunately these meetings did not continue after the school was closed due to Covid.



“ We talked about so many different options for what to do after he finished school, he said he didn't talk to anyone else about 'this stuff'. This really surprised me - his parents had opinions he told me, but his friends didn't discuss their next steps at all. ”

What was the process?



Matched

13th December
2019



7

Meet Ups in
person



8

Hours
Together



Goodbye

9th March
2020



“ After a few meetings I was overjoyed to hear T tell me about all the things he enjoyed and was good at during his time at an out of school club. He had started off by saying things like "I don't want to sound big headed but ..." but after a while he understood I didn't consider it a negative and became more and more confident in saying things he was good at and enjoyed. It was so brilliant to hear. ”