Case Study: Positive Futures

Within the framework of the Positive Futures programme, a young individual was recognized by Abertillery Comprehensive as being at risk of permanent exclusion from school.

This individual, referred to as DD, had been engaged in anti-social behaviour within the local community and had received several warnings from law enforcement.

DD was on the verge of entering the Youth Justice System.

In September, DD commenced participation in the Positive Futures programme as an alternative educational provision, joining a group of seven other young individuals. The initial weeks were dedicated to team-building activities and consultations aimed at identifying DD's specific needs.

Based on these assessments, a tailored programme of work was developed. Art played a significant role in their educational curriculum, and the group expressed a desire to create a community artwork.

Consequently, a mural was designed for a local bus stop, with the entire town participating in consultations to recognize local heroes.

DD identified a local mixed martial arts fighter, Jack Shore, who is currently signed with the international organization UFC, as his hero.

DD frequently plays as Jack Shore in the video game UFC 5, and the fighter has had a substantial influence on DD's life.

DD had the opportunity to meet his idol during a press event for the mural, which contributed to an improvement in his behaviour. He has since begun attending local youth groups regularly.

DD is now an active participant in the youth club, contributing to the organization of various youth work activities.