

Building a HAF Case Study

Brief

We're very keen to hear and share some of the great stories about HAF provision over the summer from a range of categories. Case studies are also a great mechanism for sharing best practice amongst LAs and providers.

The case studies are generally around 400-600 words and the tone can be fairly relaxed and informal, as if you're speaking to other colleagues. Take a look at some examples we have used on our Teaching <u>blog</u> to give you an idea of style.

Questions to structure cast study:

• Intro – set the context for your organisation and your position

The Sangat centre offers a range of services to fulfil our mission to empower people to overcome barriers and hardship, enhance health and wellbeing for the community of Keighley. Our purpose is to Improve the lives and opportunities of everyone in Keighley, changing stereotypes and prejudices by making our town a more inclusive, attractive and thriving place to live, work and socialise.

Our youth provision involves a HAF sponsored holiday playscheme running through the summer, easter and christmas holidays. Additionally we deliver a Sunday Club all year round, focussing on promoting physical and mental wellbeing as well as providing academic support in numeracy and literacy. The Sangat centre also runs a weekend football club which operates indoors during the winter and outdoors during the summer period

What's the opportunity or issue

W wanted our young people to learn about and engage with animals and nature and be enriched with novel experiences they can build on and ones that will motivate and inspire them. This was a key objective for us as the opportunities for our young people to connect with nature are limited due to various circumstances and barriers.

How have you capitalised on the opportunity and/ or overcome the issue (briefly)

We delivered 3 sessions based explicitly on this theme. First was a Zoolab session where several animals were brought in and young people were given the opportunity to learn about and interact with these rare animals. The animals included, snakes, frogs, snails, spiders, beetles and a pet rat. As ell as learning about each of the amazing creatures they also got to hold and touch most of them. It was a session that created huge excitement amongst all the young people as well as a little apprehension and fear in some of coming into contact with the animals. Post-session the discussions continued within the group and for many of the young people it was THE highlight of the scheme.

Other activities around the theme of Nature included our walk around the St. Ives estate which also included time spent in the adventure play area. There was a lot of reluctance around the walk with several young people voicing their lack of enthusiasm for the activity. The whole journey and exploration of the estate was an eye opener for the young people and they appreciated the enjoyment of walking in such inspiring surroundings away from the urban areas they are used to.

What has been the impact

Some left the Zoolab experience desperately wanting pets of their own and the most impactful thing was the sheer number of questions and curiosity the young people displayed for the animals. The young people displayed an appreciation of the importance of these animals to us and it allowed a discussion around how to care for the animals as well as the role we can play in their long term sustainability and future.

• How do you plan to continue to build on this for future HAF periods.

We ensure our projects incorporate activities that are diverse around a few key themes including physical and mental wellbeing, education, Nature, sports and Arts. This ensures we are giving young people a diverse range of experiences with consistency in the opportunities provided from each of the different areas.

- Clear and concise advice for providers (e.g. 5 top tips)
- 1. Take on board feedback from young people
- 2. Reward the young people for the efforts and commitment
- 3. Make sure your programme is diverse and engaging
- 4. Plan thoroughly, you will get better quality of outcomes
- 5. Make sure staff and volunteers are passionate about working with young people and flly engage in all the activities with the young people.