Barnsley College

CONNOR RAYTON

Connor joined the Learning for Living and Work (LfLW) department in September 2017, coming from a school that works with students with emotional and behavioural difficulties.

As a result, Connor was used to being in very small classes with high levels of intensive support. During his taster sessions in College, Connor did not speak to anyone and his high levels of anxiety were clear to see.

Connor said: "I was very nervous about leaving school and meeting new people."

Supporting the student journey

As time progressed in the department, Connor grew in confidence and became a very vocal and involved member of the group, even becoming a course representative. With support and encouragement from staff, Connor also worked hard to improve his behaviour and emotional maturity with great success.

Connor showed himself to be a very able student and achieved Entry Level 3 qualifications in maths, English and Employability Skills.

Next steps

With support and reassurance from staff, Connor was able to attend an internal progression interview and moved to the Travel and Tourism department.

"LfLW really helped me as all the support I needed to progress was put in place for me."

Connor's success has continued in his new department and when he visits LfLW now, we can see the confident young man he has become.

"College is good and I really enjoy it. This year I have successfully passed my Level 1 in Travel and Tourism and Functional Skills maths and English. I have been to Disneyland Paris with students from a different group and everyone made me feel welcome. I have also been a course representative this year which I feel is a great achievement."

Connor has grown in confidence to the extent that he is very positive about his future.

"I am progressing onto Level 2 Travel and Tourism next year. In the future I want to become a holiday representative or cabin crew."