

# Spotlight on: Our Next Generation service in Nottingham

## The service:

Our Next Generation service in Nottingham is funded by the Samworth Foundation and supported by a range of local partners. The service offers intensive support to young people who, in their own words, 'have more going off in [their] lives than people realise'.

## Our work:

The service worked directly with 10 young people this year, and with partners across the city including the Youth Offending Service, Social Care, Schools, and others. The Next Generation team acts with and on behalf of young people to support them to navigate complex systems; engage in education, employment or training; help them access specialist services, pursue their hobbies and interests, and make sure their voices are heard.

## Our impact:

An evaluation of the service carried out by The Children's Society this year found that:

### Young people have improved mental and emotional health

- Workers give young people the validation that their emotional responses are normal, enable them to recognise their triggers, and provide practical tools to manage emotional health and well-being.

71%<sup>17</sup>

of young people said that they are better able to manage their emotions as a result of the project.



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I used to punch walls and everything. I used to get angry and then start doing the maddest stuff. Now, I've grown a sense of caring from working with [worker], because he's helped me to realise that not everybody's against ya.

Young person, Next Generation

### Young people experience better relationships



- Young people are better able to understand and manage their feelings of anger and stress, and are able to see alternative perspectives. They felt that this had enabled them to improve communication with their peers, families, and professionals, and had subsequently led to better relationships with these groups.

Young people have greater trust in, and engage better with, other services, including education, training, and employment



“

[Next Generation has] helped with my relationship with my mum. Me and my mum didn't get along, we used to argue all the time. There's no doubt [worker] helped.

Young person, Next Generation

- Young people have better engagement with education or training provision, and aspirations for employment. This is important because it ensures young people's participation in education, which is important for their future, and it immediately safeguards them against vulnerability to exploitation and other risks.

Average attendance increased from

78% to 100%<sup>18</sup>

<sup>17</sup> 5 out of 7 YP, 70% sample size

<sup>18</sup> Sample size of 30% (averaged)





As a result of your service, [Young Person's] attendance and attainment in school has increased. **He is managing mainstream school better...** this is because of his support worker from The Children's Society.

Professional feedback

### Reduced offending and engagement in crime

- Data obtained from Nottingham City Council shows that prior to working with Next Generation Nottingham, five young people had 13 arrests between them. Since working with Next Generation, these five young people have had a total of two arrests between them.

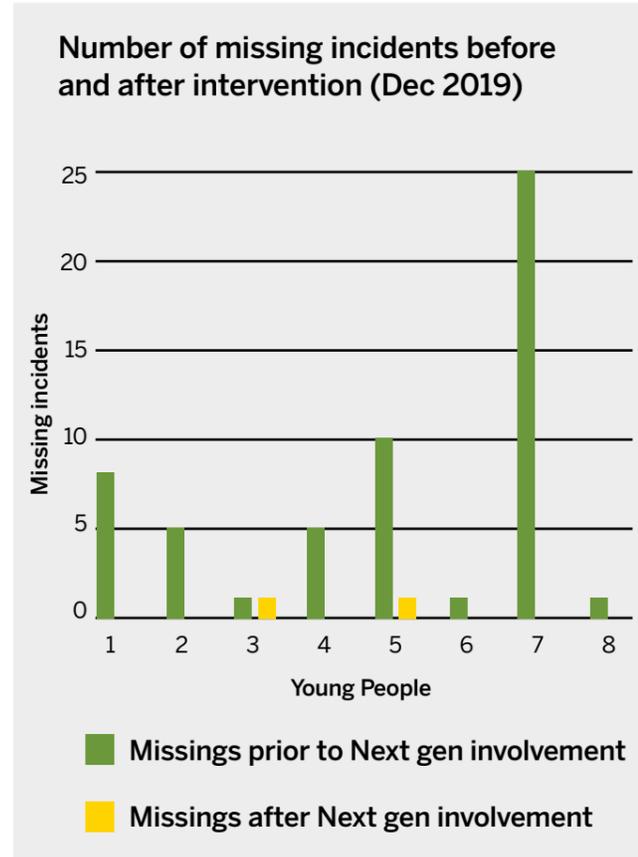


A year ago I was doing bad stuff, getting arrested and stuff, near enough going to prison and that, and then **now I'm in care, going to college and close to getting a job.**

Young person, Next Generation

### Reduction in missing episodes

- Data obtained from Nottingham City Council shows that before working with Next Generation, eight young people had 56 missing incidents between them. Since working with Next Generation, these eight young people have had a total of two recorded missing incidents between them.



Other outcomes achieved include young people having:

- Increased aspirations and self-belief, goals for the future, and a desire to progress.
- Improved physical health through increased physical activity, focusing energies in a positive way.
- A reduction in drug and alcohol use; and
- Increased safety, including a reduced risk of being exploited.



**I've already planned out my future. I know I'm going into the Army when I finish school.** Then I can get my trade in the Army, I can learn things, like become an Electrician, or an Engineer. Then [when] I come out... I've got everything I need to set up own business with the skills that I've learnt. **That's a driver for me, that I know what I want, so I know what I've got to do to get that...** [Worker's] been the most important thing for me to realise that I need to change. I didn't want to end up in ten years being off my head all the time on weed, in pubs, ruining my life, when I could be having a decent life, actually be doing something, going to different countries with the Army. **He's helped me realise that there's two walks in life and he's helped me realise the one that's better.**

Young person, Next Generation

