



Introduction to Working with Young People

Building Confidence

19 year old Callier was introduced to Madcap by James.

Callier

It's a nice happy, friendly area, where you can come and everyone's nice and smiling. You just feel really welcome when you come here, definitely.

Like many young people, Callier had previously felt a lack of motivation.

Callier

It's motivation that can be lacking, I think. It's like what's happened here, it's like, 'here you go,' and it's like your motivation then gets kicked up a bit. Whereas, if nothing's really around, you haven't heard much, no one's come up to you, you keep a bit quiet, but you need to go out there and actually find it yourself, as well. You get more confident so you can actually go out there, after, to get stuff.

The cost of a similarly equipped commercial recording studio would have been prohibitive.

Steve

He's very old. Probably as old as my dad.

Callier

It's nice being in a studio, getting to use all the different equipment, learning about the set-up, sort of thing. Also, personally, playing together a bit better now, and we've got a live gig and everything like that out of it, so we've really come together a bit more than we were before, playing in a bedroom.

Steve

Basically, right, as I see it, we've got the track almost finished, yeah?

Working with Steve has proved very different to Callier's experiences at school.

Callier

Oh, I've loved it. Steve's hilarious. He just brings you together, brings out the best in you, as well, builds you up, makes you play to the best of your abilities, I think, definitely. I have learned a lot.

Teachers don't really understand that's what you want most of the time, whereas normally what they give you is, like, 'well, you have to do this, you have to do it along these lines,' whereas here it's just like, 'what have you got? I like that. And let's keep that, let's do this, you just need to change this a bit,' you know, and just a bit of creative influence into what you've already got, I think, definitely.

So what effect has his involvement with Madcap had on Callier and his self-esteem?

Callier

Well, I think more, really, it gives us the more, like, you can do it, if you put your mind to it, you can actually go out there, you can do it. There's nothing holding you back, if you can get the time you can actually go out and get yourself a CD, you know, you can play some live music, get together as a group, it's pretty good actually, definitely.