

United Against Bullying School Case Study: Supporting LAC pupils

How The Hewett Academy supported a LAC pupil to develop their social skills

Context of our anti-bullying work

We have one student who is a looked after child. This child suffered trauma in the early part of their life and has great difficulty in positive interactions with other children, which becomes bullying behaviour. They also have complex additional educational needs (SEND). This meant that they were often at the centre of negative interactions, and this began to develop into bullying behaviour. This made them difficult to manage in a normal classroom environment.

What we hoped to achieve

The intended outcome is for this student to develop their social skills and be able to rejoin mainstream classes and access mainstream curriculum.

The action we took

- This student was given a reading mentor, to improve their literacy skills.
- They were provided with time in an alternative provision that specialises in dealing with vulnerable learners with special education needs, social emotional and mental health needs and behavioural issues. This also removes them from some of their mainstream lessons.
- However, we felt it important that they are able to see how a classroom works in normal circumstances and develop social skills essential for their later life.
- This student was therefore put on a bespoke timetable, under reduced hours, so they have some time in class with other students.

Impact and outcomes of the work

These provisions have recently been introduced and yet they have had an impact almost immediately. This has allowed other classes to progress undisturbed. The student involved has also started to make progress as a consequence of the interventions. They are flourishing in the additional provision.

Over the coming years with the additional support provided by the provisions will be able to re-enter mainstream school.

What we have learned

This is a student has complex needs and therefore required a complex, multilayered response, incorporating specialist individuals and organisations. Being aware of this we can respond to a similar situation more rapidly in future.