

Case Study 1 James

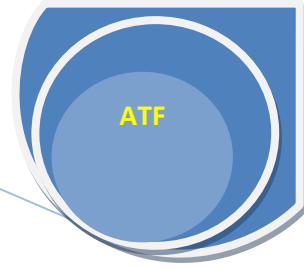


James is 14 years old and lives in Shoeburyness. He has a history of causing anti-social behaviour and is currently under the Youth Offending Team. He has been attending the football sessions at Shoebury Youth Centre for the last year and become more involved and engaged during this time.

James has been encouraged to join Trinity Football Club under a scholarship placement that means he is supported financially to enable him to participate. The club is 5 miles from James's home and he initially struggled to attend training. Funding was found to provide James with a cycle to allow him to be independent and make his own way to and from the club. The club provided him with boots and kit.

Joining Trinity Football Club has allowed James to mix with children from across Southend and the cycle has given him the opportunity to widen his horizons, when previously he rarely left the estate.

James says; "Before I started coming to football, I was always getting in trouble with the police for hanging about and causing trouble, probably because I was bored. Now I have got involved I am turning my life round through football and it has stopped me getting involved in gangs."



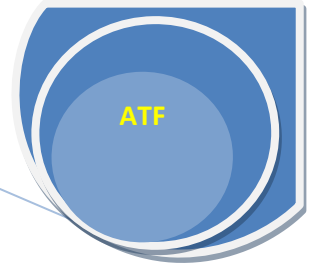
Case Study 2 Holly



Holly lives in Shoeburyness, she is 13 years old. She has had quite a difficult time in recent years with her mother being a victim of domestic abuse. Holly has often been in trouble with other residents on the estate that she lives in as there is nowhere for the children to play that is close to her home.

Holly is a gifted footballer for her age and had previously played for a league team that had unfortunately folded. She attended our weekly sessions and enjoyed them, although she would be quick to become disruptive if the games did not work out in the way she wanted. Holly did not really enjoy playing in the mixed sessions and would be intimidated by playing with the boys.

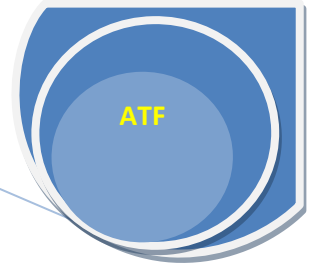
To overcome this problem we allowed Holly to help in running the sessions for younger children and it immediately became obvious that she thrived in this environment with the added responsibility transforming her negative behaviour.



We put her forward for a scholarship to Trinity Football Club and supported her to allow her to attend the training sessions for the girls team. She has gone on to become a regular and is considered an essential part of the team.

She has recently undertaken the Young Leaders Essex FA Coaching Course which has now allowed her to become one of our young volunteers.

Holly said "I think the course has been brilliant, I sometimes struggle with confidence but the coaches at ATF are always there for me and have really supported me throughout. I really want to go on and become a coach myself."



Case Study 3 Aaron



Aaron is 14 years old. He initially attended our Cluny Square session and his behaviour was quite disruptive having continuously having to be reminded about his inappropriate language. Getting to know Aaron a little better, we found that his family were homeless and they were living in a hostel. Due to the disruption he was not attending school. Aaron became a regular and was always keen to attend additional sessions. After several weeks we arranged for him to have a trial at Trinity Football Club and we provided him with a cycle to ensure he could attend. He was accepted under the scholarship scheme and now plays for the team on a weekly basis. He has responded very well to being part of the team and still attends Saturday ATF training.

Aaron says; "I love being part of a club and it is really good to spend my weekends training and getting ready for the match on a Sunday. I could not believe it when I got a bike, I felt really lucky. I love coming along to all the training I can!".