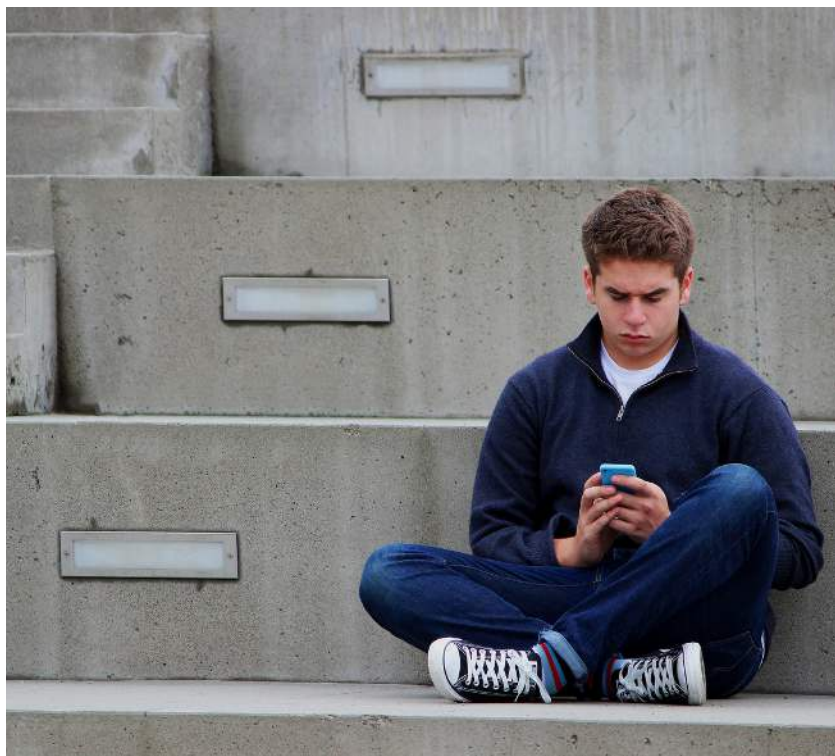


CASE STUDY -

Mentoring

PRUs: Can Be a Path to Success for Vulnerable Young People. Mentors Help Vulnerable Young People Find Focus

Every young person deserves the best possible start in life, and for some, that journey may include a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU). PRUs are small schools attended by excluded teenagers and those struggling with mainstream education. Unfortunately, these institutions have, at times, been stigmatised as places for disruptive students. However, the story of George Baldock offers an example of how PRUs can become bridges to success, helping vulnerable young people find focus and reach their full potential.



A Mission to Change the Narrative

George Baldock, now an 18-year-old student at Trinity College, Cambridge, is on a mission to change the narrative surrounding PRUs. He's studying history and politics, having achieved three A*s at A-level. His success stems from his personal experience at a PRU.

Overcoming Anxiety Through PRU with The Support of Mentors

George's journey to success was not without its challenges. He suffered from overwhelming anxiety while attending his local school. By Year 7, he had given up on school entirely and struggled with the intensity of the environment. This eventually led to him being placed in the school's internal exclusions facility.

His life took a significant turn when he joined a nearby PRU, the Bridge Academy West, at the start of Year 8. What he found was transformative.

Mentor Holly worked with George during her time at The Bridge, working with him to create a small and supportive environment, helping him find purpose and routine in his day-to-day life, allowing George to thrive and enter back into mainstream school.

George's inspiring journey serves as a testament to the positive impact that PRUs can have on vulnerable young people. Through dedicated mentors like Holly and the Bridge Academy West, these institutions can provide essential support, encouragement, and guidance to help students find their focus and fulfill their potential.

George Baldock is determined to eliminate the stigma attached to these institutions. His success story demonstrates that with the right environment, support, and guidance, even those who face significant challenges can achieve academic excellence and personal growth.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Bridge Academy PRU and mentors like Holly are making a real difference in the lives of vulnerable young people, offering them a bridge to a brighter and more successful future. George Baldock's story is a testament to the power of dedicated educators and the potential within every student, regardless of their past challenges.

For further information on The Mentoring programme please email office@action4youth.org

