



### Going above and beyond for 14-19 year olds in London

asphaleia training in West London have had a very busy March, seeing at least 25 young people move into positive destinations.

“It has been hectic – but totally worth it,” exclaims Jurgita, project manager in W.London. “The team have pulled out all the stops to make a real impact on the lives of local young people as well as the local economy by doing all they can to find young people suitable progressions.

“For those who are struggling at school and need support to re-engage with full time education, we have offered intensive educational support in an alternative learning environment to help facilitate their reengagement with school. For those who are over 16 and unemployed, we have helped them with developing CV’s, interview skills and provided structured job search sessions,” she adds.

In this month alone we have seen five young people go to work in McDonalds and one in a local pub. Earlier this year saw a young person get a job at Heathrow Airport, with the promise of a performance based promotion within one year.

In a time when unemployment amongst 16-24 year olds has reached an all time high (938,000 16-24-year-olds (15.6%) are now considered out of employment, education and training <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-12565041>) asphaleia are very pleased to be working towards progressing as many young people as possible into both further education and employment.

We recently worked with a young boy who was not engaging constructively in school. “At the beginning Sam\* did not engage well with the project,” explains project worker Anne-Marie. “However, in the past month, he has engaged well, is attending all classes and appears to be doing well with all aspects of the project. He engages well with all members of staff, is very polite and I believe that he will engage well with the school when he is due to return.”

Tutor Sumaira adds: "Sam is a keen and enthusiastic learner who works steadily and puts efforts into tasks. He is mature, sensible and punctual. He is working to achieve Level 1 qualification in Numeracy and Entry 3 level in Literacy in the next few weeks."

It is young people like Sam who could face leaving school with no qualifications or destination ideas without access to projects like ours. However, with asphaleia's support, we hope to re-engage with him school and support him into choosing the right path for his future, once he leaves school.

Andrew Musgrove, Senior Practitioner for the Targeted Youth Support Team said: "I was very pleased to find out more about your project and I think we will be keen to work with you in supporting a number of young people. Sam is a young person that I know was a very hard person to engage with – to have success with him would be to your credit in my eyes."

If you would like to find out how future projects like these may benefit young people you are working with, please contact our West London team on 01895 272478.

*\* name has been changed*