



Catch22 Case Study

Securing Positive Outcomes For Care Leavers Through Extended Support Programmes And Partnerships

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Catch22

Catch22 is a **social business**, a not for profit business with a social mission.

For over **200 years** we have designed and delivered services that build resilience and aspiration in people and communities.

In **2019/20**, our 1600 staff supported over **110,000 people** to lead better lives.

We believe that to thrive, people need:



- **Justice and rehabilitation:** offender management, violence reduction interventions, rehabilitation and victim services. Working with young people and adults, we provide intervention services in custody and in the community that are focused on building strong, consistent and trusting relationships to help unlock potential and make positive changes in life.
- **Education:** alternative provision schools for pupils outside mainstream education. We provide high quality teaching and learning based on effective relationships which help young people to progress and succeed in sustained education or employment.
- **National Citizen Service:** a four-phase programme giving young people the opportunity to meet new friends, learn new skills and make a difference in their community. Participants improve communication skills, work in a team and develop as leaders, in line with the NCS aim of developing a more cohesive, engaged and responsible society
- **Young People and Families:** child sexual and criminal exploitation services, mental health support, family intervention services. We work with young people and families in trouble, providing early intervention, targeted and specialist support services to those in crisis, leaving care, missing from home or with substance misuse or mental health problems.
- **Employability and Vocational Training:** apprenticeship programmes and programmes to help people into work. We offer learning and training opportunities for students who don't want to stay in a traditional academic environment and help who have struggled to find work through conventional routes

Employability

Aims to improve social mobility through supporting 16years+ to access Employability services

- ✓ **Barriers to employment:** NEET's, mental health, physical health, Care leavers, Ex-offenders, low confidence
- ✓ **Offer:** Bespoke action plans, community based model, work experience opportunities, employment advice, benefits advice, training/courses, employability skills, job brokerage, in work support
- ✓ **Contracts:** Barclays Connect with Work, The Social Switch Project, Digital Edge, Inspiring Families & Bright Light



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Bright Light Programme Partnership



Bright Light: Is a pilot programme being delivered in partnership by Catch22 and The Children's Society.

Programme Aim:

1. Primary aim of progressing care leavers into apprenticeships
2. To further understand barriers associated with care leavers and the workplace
3. To develop solutions, share learnings and to influence national policy.

Targets: 2.5 year programme, with the aim of moving 40 Care leavers into apprenticeships, 40 Care leavers into employment, education/training opportunities and to positively impact on a further 80 Care Leavers

Quality of service: In order to ensure we can deliver intense support and an localised approach with employers we have limited our referrals from a small number of Care leaving teams



**The
Children's
Society**

**No child
should feel
alone**



Who are we and what are we known for?



Catch22

- Established charity for over 200 years.
- Vision is based on the **3 Ps** – a good **P**lace to live, a **P**urpose and good **P**eople around them.
- Award winning employability provider. Has a 70% sustainability rate in employability.

The Children's Society

- Established charity for over 130 years.
- Fights for change for disadvantaged young people through direct practice, lobbying and campaigning for policy change.
- Supported 9872 vulnerable YP last year, while policy changes will improve the lives of more than half a million.

Together we have over 1,800 professionals in our networks, operating from 144 locations across the UK, working to support over 51,000 people every year.



Bright opportunities for London's care leavers



What is Bright Light?

Employability programme for care leavers **ONLY** - funded by the Clothworkers' foundation

Uses the strengths of both organisations to:

- Progress care leavers into sustainable careers via apprenticeships, training & sector specific routeways
- Support care leavers to access opportunities, build confidence and overcome barriers
- Provide wraparound support, i.e. in house therapeutic services – (Disruption Exploitation programme and TCS wider therapy team)

Bright Light Criteria

Cohort: Young people aged 16-25 who are leaving or have left care

Willing & Ready: Able to start work or apprenticeship within the next 12 months

Headline Statistics 2019-2020

Why is Bright Light needed?

Homes for Good statistics report– 2019-2020

- *Three times more likely to be NEET than non care leavers*
- *Make up almost half of men aged 21 in contact with the criminal justice system*
- *There are currently 99,000 children who are classified as looked after away from home*
- *8,600 young people leave the care system each year*
- *Just 6% of care leavers aged 19-21 go on to higher education*
- *Care leavers make up 25% of the UK's homeless population*



What makes Bright Light unique?



Employer Engagement

Exclusive Partnership Development Manager (PDM)

- ✓ Opportunities brokered solely for care leavers in accordance to their sectors of interest
- ✓ Supporting and motivating employers to meet their CSR targets
- ✓ Educating employers around the benefits or recruiting care leavers
- ✓ Working with employers to ensure opportunities more accessible – i.e. reducing the application process
- ✓ Providing support throughout the recruitment process, assisting with any training needs, screening and job matching
- ✓ Additional support to the participants during the recruitment process - i.e mock interviews and work trials
- ✓ Tailored jobs fairs for Bright Light participants to broaden career options and mind sets
- ✓ In work support for up to 18 months for both the care leaver and employer alike, addressing the challenges that both parties can face when hiring young person with personal barriers.



What makes Bright Light unique?

Flexible Approach

- ✓ Care leavers are involved with service design - they even named the programme!
- ✓ We listen to ensure that care leavers are at the heart of the programme – Expert Youth Panel
- ✓ Ongoing surveys with employers and care leavers to evaluate the learnings and the programme effectiveness
- ✓ Dedicated career coach in each Local Authority (currently – Hounslow, Enfield and Wandsworth)
- ✓ Coordinating the needs of care leavers with all key workers involved
- ✓ Wrap around services to address barriers and provide additional support
- ✓ Researching and accessing education/training courses and work experience
- ✓ Tailored support and coaching to succeed through an application process, ensuring that care leavers have the skills and confidence required to apply and start work/education
- ✓ Opportunity to access live apprenticeship/employment vacancies via the Partnership Development Manager
- ✓ Financial supporting with travel, clothing and other expenses related to starting work/education

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What have we achieved so far?

- ✓ **Consulted** with over 100 businesses, many who have positively engaged offering apprenticeship, employment, work experience, traineeships and training opportunities to our care leavers
- ✓ **Launched** the Expert Youth Panel to ensure our care leavers voices are heard and they have an input in our delivery
- ✓ **Signed up** over 100 care leavers to the programme
- ✓ **Engagement** with care leavers on Bright Light has been higher than any other of our employment contracts
- ✓ **Progressed** 18 care leavers into opportunities, with an additional 6 more due to start by the end of October



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