

## Linx Case Study - The Key One Chance's progression

One Chance started as a group of 13-14 year olds from Unity City Academy from different ethnic backgrounds. They were identified as challenging and disruptive in and out of school and 'hard to engage'. The group were brought together by Linx to tackle serious issues around anti-social behaviour, racism, bullying and physical violence, as well as school absence.

Working in school with the young people over a period of years, Ricky Tomlinson, Senior Youth Worker at Linx, helped the young people to identify their challenges and build relationships and trust through team building exercises and small tasks. Although the group was initially very challenging and difficult, through a careful and iterative process of group work, discussion, individual tasks and fun activities, the young people were able to work together with Linx support to improve their emotional development, communication skills, anger management, personal boundaries, self esteem, confidence and self-management.

**"The group work well now, they are like a family and look out for each other."**

**Ricky Tomlinson, Senior Youth Worker, Linx**

They became an incredibly strong and self-aware group, with improved self-esteem and self-respect and better behaviour in and out of school.



*One Chance participants in 2018*

**"It's made us build better relationships with each other and speak to others with respect."**

**Brogan Hyres, One Chance**

One Chance won a Key Award for 'Inspiring Belief in Young People in 2018 and went on to develop projects to benefit their local community.



*Pictured: One Chance Group picking up an award for Inspiring Belief in Young People, The Key Awards 2018*

**"My confidence got better and it helped me not to be shy"**

**Katarina Bandyova, One Chance**

In 2019, One Chance reached Stage 3 of the process and raised £1000 to take 50 young people on a trip to Lightwater Valley, as a reward for improving their behaviour at school.

One Chance also did a Stage 4 community action project, securing a grant of £2000 from The Key. This was for the Winter Wonderland programme delivered by a group of young people from the Unity City Academy in December 2019.



It was an ambitious all-day event with an outdoor skating rink, Santa's

grotto, art and craft and other fun workshops, stalls, food, information advice and guidance stalls and involving children and their families from the local area.



achievements and years of work with them.

This successful event was the culmination of three years of work with the group. Ricky Tomlinson (pictured) was nominated for Key Facilitator of the Year in 2019, reflecting his