



Dear Sandy,

Please accept this letter as both a letter of appreciation for your support over the last year, and a report to show some of the positive outputs, and outcomes as a result of the project.

The children and young people that we work with benefitted in a wide variety of ways, from increased social skills, understanding of teamwork, sharing, problem solving and as far as understanding others problems, emotions and increasing their sense of autonomy in the process. For some children, these may seem ordinary skills, learned in early childhood, however many of the children we work with are on the margins of society, where personal, social and emotional skills are often overlooked within their upbringing.

As a result of the £3000 awarded to Support Sport from Always a Chance, Support Sport have been able to offer our PlayMakers awards and SportElite programme, working with some of the following schools in Warwickshire:

Kingsway Primary School has a high number of students from single parent families, Looked After Children, Special Educational Needs and children with behavioural issues as a result of a variety of family based issues. 15 of their most vulnerable children attended and completed the course, enabling them to become leaders in their school.

Coten End Primary School were looking for support for both children with low self-esteem, confidence and aspirations, and children that enjoyed taking part in sport more than they enjoyed life at school. They now have a lunchtime leader system thanks to the course, which has dramatically reduced lunchtime behaviour issues.

### **Case Study**

Karl is a year 6 child that finds difficulty coping with stressful situations, and managing his emotions. He was finding himself increasingly isolated in school and had been a victim of bullying, as well as being involved in fights with other children. He was very sceptical about starting our sessions but after a few weeks began to find enjoyment, and that he was building relationships with



other children in the school. Through the teamwork and leadership that Karl developed within the PlayMakers course, he learned to understand others, work as a team, solve problems, and built his own confidence and self-esteem. He is now working with children all the way through his school, from year 1-6, as a positive role model and sports leader.

### **SportElite**

The grant from Always a Chance allowed us to begin our BTEC programme for some of the most underprivileged young people in Warwickshire, based at the Westbury Centre, Westlea Road and Leamington Spa. The programme started in January, leaving very little time for the group to complete the qualification, but due to the level of commitment that they demonstrated, all students completed the full diploma, committing to additional days of work, and intensive tutoring in the process.

### **Case Study**

Bradley and Liam were students from Aylesford School, both with similar issues of non-attendance at school, and involvement of police and mental health teams into their use of drugs, which were leading to other criminal and community based disputes. Both boys had an average of 5% attendance at school during Year 11, which rose to 93% and 97% whilst on our SportElite programme. More importantly, neither of them previously had a plan for their route out of the above issues, and into something positive. Through achieving their BTEC Diploma and an understanding of issues surrounding the previous problems such as hygiene, confidence, lifestyle, communication, commitment etc, both boys were able to get into Stratford College on a sports programme.