

Term 2 Report – 2022/23

Setting the Stage

This academic year's second term of delivery was an exciting time at Dallaglio RugbyWorks, from rolling out new partnerships and projects to seeing substantial improvement in our participants' skills and engagement.

Nationally, schools are having a challenging academic year, with **91% of schools having their budgets slashed**, resulting in **larger class loads for teachers, fewer extra-curricular activities, and increasing rates of absence**, coupled with **teacher strikes in effect across the country**.

Youth Voice Highlights

The athletes from Dame Kelly Holmes Trust have been supporting our delivery in London in partnership with the Mercer's Charitable Foundation for the past three years – this year, we are working with **Claire Bennett – an ex-Olympic fencer, and Tre Whyte, a BMX rider**. Thanks to Tre, we have been able to offer all the Key Stage 3 students at Southwark Inclusive Learning Services (SILS) a chance to ride at Peckham BMX Club every Friday since March. The students have benefited from expert coaching from Tre who used to compete on the world stage. The students have loved the sessions, growing in confidence as they've gone along and have always given their full effort, despite the fact it always seems to rain on a Friday! Students like Jake, who already had previous BMXing experience, have developed their leadership skills through this opportunity by helping other students with techniques, whilst Maya and Emma have gone from being apprehensive about getting on a bike in Week 1, to leading the way around the track now.



info@dallaglorugbyworks.com | www.dallaglorugbyworks.com

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Grace, a student in the North West struggled with social anxiety and as a result seemed very disengaged from sessions, especially in large group activities. However, on a CTD at Curry's, where participants were involved in multiple group activities including learning how to fix home appliances and electronic gadgets, Grace seamlessly integrated with all the groups she was assigned to and dove into all the activities and interacted with her team to produce better results. At the end of the day, she was presented with an award for her engagement, which she graciously accepted in front of a crowd with a smile. She has continued engaging with our sessions and is now more receptive to group sessions.

The Grove School in Haringey works with students with special educational needs and for the past few years, Linklaters, a global law firm and one of our long-time supporters, has provided these young people at The Grove with positive encounters and guidance in navigating the professional world through Career Taster Days. Michael, a 15-year-old student from The Grove School, speaks highly of the experiences he had with us. "The career taster days I took part in last year gave me an opportunity to learn about jobs I never knew existed, take part in creative tasks that gave me a sense of what the world of work looks like, and speak with new and interesting people and ask them questions about how they got to where they are," he says. "I'm really excited to attend the next Career Taster Day, as well as the upcoming visit to Linklaters' head office in London. It will be great to meet and speak with lots of people in the organisation who do a variety of roles and also see what a big central London office looks like!"

Delivery Highlights

Our partnerships with various organisations that help support our delivery and amplify the benefits our young people can obtain from our programmes are central to our programmes and their success. We are excited to work with NFL UK and several other charities in London to promote American Football amongst young people in alternate provisions and local communities. Using the sport as a vehicle to promote active lifestyles and mental well-being, we also hope to see our participants look into NFL, and organised sport as a career. We are looking forward to rolling out the project in the upcoming weeks.

Another partnership we want to celebrate is with the Highfields Community Centre in Leicester. The centre runs a Youth Club and we work with a group of young girls to improve their physical skills – the girls are now comfortable playing Rugby and Football and improved not only their skills in the sport, but also becoming more optimistic and positive, and encountering organised sport as a viable career. Mary is a shy and reserved girl we have been working hard



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to engage with. She struggles socially within the group, and would rather have been in isolation. She has gradually come out of her shell over the last few terms with our help so when she described rugby athletes as her role models, it was heart-warming to read.

This year, we are also excited to announce Animated Youth! Animated Youth are a team that brings their truth into power. This new exciting project led by our Youth Animators under the supervision of Charlie Allen will create a bank of content both in video and written form that will offer a first-hand account of what young people think about local, national and international issues. In the inaugural cohort, we have our amazing alumni turned coaches – [Starr Stanford in the Midlands](#), [Reigan Johnson-Hinds in the North](#), [Ryan Davies in Wales](#), and our [Apprentice Coach Cameron Johnson in London](#). The mission is to use our platform of animated youth to bring together the voices of young people today and to make a difference in policy on a local and national level, amplifying youth voice into power!



We also introduced our new digital skills workshops and skills development web-app Player Profiles to participants in London, the East of England and Wales. Through these sessions, we found that while young people seem tech-savvy, these skills do not translate to workplaces or as important life skills. Several of our young people were unaware of the nature and uses of e-mail, and only thought of it as credentials to use their phones and apps.

We have completed [24 digital skills sessions covering topics such as staying safe online from cyberbullying or scam e-mails and creating professional](#)

[email-ids to use on job or further education applications](#). These sessions proved to be extremely successful, with incredible insights into the digital skills needed by the workplace, and those our participants already have.

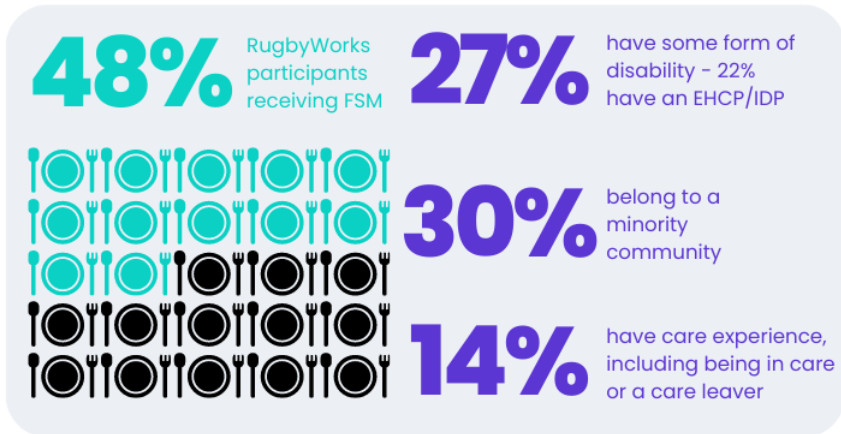
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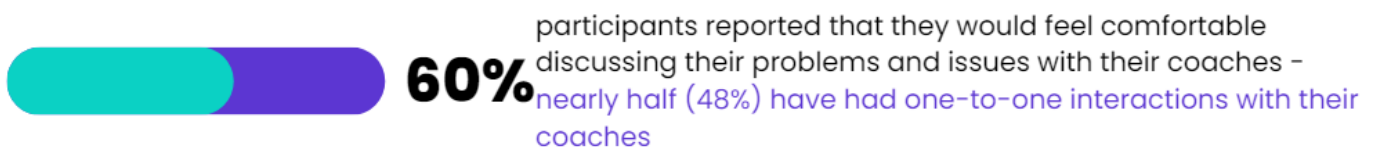
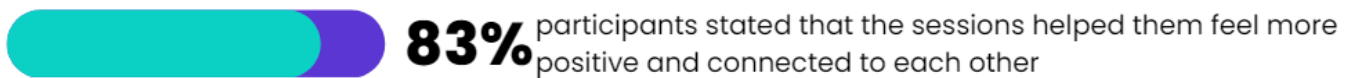
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Reach and Impact



This term, we focused on teamwork and problem-solving and most of our young people scored high on their progress surveys, showing that across the two terms they have either stayed the same or increased their confidence in their skills and that they can demonstrate the more complex behaviours and elements of teamwork and problem-solving. By the end of the second term, **61% showed improvements in teamwork and 26% in problem-solving**. Similar trends were observed across all the life skills – **43% of our participants saw improvements in their understanding and aptitude for self-belief, 55% in communication, and 50% in self-management**.



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