

SPOTLIGHT ON ALEX

Alex has been on a work placement with local maintenance and building contractor, Chas Berger, since October and has found the experience a valuable insight into the world of work. Admitting that he had little idea what he wanted to do upon leaving school last year, Alex was keen to enter the workplace and start earning a wage rather than continuing in education.

While the majority of his friends went on to college, Alex feels that many may be forced to drop-out when the educational maintenance allowance (EMA) is scrapped. He feels that the majority of his generation want to better themselves but are caught in a trap where they find it hard to fund their education and aren't taken seriously enough by the job centres until they reach 18.

Projects like P2P's work placements programme provide a much-needed bridge for young people to transfer from school life to working life, according to Alex. "I have been lucky enough to be given a great opportunity by P2P and it has helped open doors", he says.

Pathways to Progress (P2P) provides tailored support to 13-19 year olds within the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea. Its mentoring scheme has helped hundreds of young people to find new interests, develop their talents and fulfil their potential.

Activities include, one-to-one mentoring/ support, drop-in sessions, extra curricular activities, away days, residential getaways, training/apprenticeship schemes and work experience.

For further information on how to get involved with P2P, please contact Tuggs on andrew.togobo@chg.org.uk or 07971 399776



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