

## **New Shoots Programme**

Information for Referrers

# Based in the unique setting of our urban farm; New Shoots supports young people to develop the confidence, knowledge, skills & motivation they need to succeed

#### What is New Shoots?

New Shoots is a personal development programme which offers unemployed young people opportunities to:

- Increase their confidence, aspirations & motivation
- Identify their goals and pathways to success
- > Develop the soft skills that employers look for
- Gain practical skills and experience
- > Achieve a vocational qualification
- > Overcome their barriers and challenges
- > Enjoy new experiences and meeting new people
- Move on to a positive next step of employment or further education and training

Lunch is provided for young people on programme and travel expenses can be reimbursed

#### Who is it for?

The programme is for unemployed young people aged 16-25 who want to explore their options and get individually tailored support to help them move into their chosen positive next step.

The programme is particularly aimed at those that have already begun to overcome their personal barriers and background challenges (substance abuse, mental health needs, offending behaviour, homelessness etc.) and who need extra support to develop the key skills and motivation that will help them on their way to achieving greater independence and a brighter future.

The programme takes a holistic approach to ensuring that each young person is supported to achieve the right positive outcomes for them in the most appropriate way.

"I can honestly say I walked out of Vauxhall City Farm a far more confident, self-aware, happier, purposeful and motivated person than I walked in. I enjoyed each day I was there which is testament to everyone involved and I now have a job. so thank you!" Chris ~ New Shoots participant

### What's involved?

New Shoots starts with an initial six week (2~3 days per week) programme of group workshops, activities and a community based social action project ~ all designed to build participant's confidence, knowledge and a range of vital skills for employment and life.

From day one participants are encouraged to identify goals that will support their personal progression and each young person builds their own portfolio to evidence their achievements and value to potential employers.

Following the group based element; young people will be offered up to nine further months of individually tailored support and mentoring along with further opportunities to build their skills, qualifications and work experience with the ultimate aim of moving into their chosen next step.

#### Does it work?

100% of the young people that have completed the six week group stage of the programme say they would recommend the programme to others.

This is a fun but structured programme designed to help participants build their skills & experience in a practical and transferable way. The farm setting creates a positive learning environment in which participants experience a range of engaging, enjoyable and developmental workshops and activities designed to support achievement of their personal goals and chosen outcomes.

The programme is fully funded for eligible young people, and is delivered by experienced and qualified staff from our Education & Training team who are dedicated to helping young people achieve success.

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For more information or to make a referral, please contact our Education & Training Team by email to education@vauxhallcityfarm.org or by calling us on 0207 582 4204 (Option 4)

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