# Child A's Story

At Longtoft Fusion Camp, 8-year-old Child A blossomed, gaining confidence, mastering new sports, and creating lasting memories in a fun and supportive environment.





"Their growth in confidence and social interaction by the end of camp was evident, and they seemed genuinely proud of their achievements."

Tom Horton, Inclusion Officer at Active Fusion

For Child A, winter wasn't just about Santa and gifts – it was about the excitement of returning to Longtoft <u>Fusion Camp</u>. This special place had become a beacon of joy and growth, offering more than just a break from school. It was a sanctuary where Child A could forge friendships and bask in the encouragement of inspiring coaches. This unforgettable experience was made possible through the generous funding of Doncaster Council's <u>Holiday Activities and Food (HAF)</u>. <u>Programme</u>, which supported children in accessing enriching and enjoyable opportunities during the Christmas school holidays.

### A Place to Belong and Thrive

From the moment they set foot back at camp, Child A felt a surge of excitement. <u>Fusion Camp</u> was a place where they truly belonged, a community where every child was cheered on and supported. The positive atmosphere created by the coaches and fellow campers made every activity feel inclusive and rewarding. Memories from the previous year, of playing football, participating in dodgeball, and trying out new sports like archery, had left Child A eager to return for more.

# **Boosting Confidence Through New Experiences**

One of the most significant impacts of Fusion Camp was how it bolstered Child A's confidence.

Whether it was mastering a new badminton technique or finally throwing a ball straight, every small victory added to their growing sense of self-assurance.

The coaches played a vital role in this transformation, breaking down skills into manageable steps and celebrating every achievement, no matter how small. Child A began to see themselves as capable and resilient, ready to tackle challenges head-on.



# Physical Activity and

# **Personal Growth**

Before camp, Child A enjoyed playing outdoors and staying active for about an hour each day. However, the immersive environment at <u>Fusion Camp</u> took their physical activity to a whole new level. The non-stop games and sports sessions not only kept them moving but also fostered a love for being active. This increase in daily exercise had a noticeable effect on their energy levels and overall happiness. By the end of each day, Child A felt a sense of accomplishment that came from pushing their limits and discovering new physical abilities.

## Child A's Journey of Confidence

Coach Tom reflected on Child A's remarkable journey, "When Child A arrived at camp, they were shy and hesitant, often hanging back during group activities like

basketball and relay races. To help, we paired them with a confident 'camp buddy,' and the change was remarkable."

He continued, "Soon, Child A eagerly participated, even leading small group activities with enthusiasm. By the end of camp, they not only improved in sports but also grew in confidence. They encouraged others, shared tips, and showcased strong teamwork. Watching them blossom into a confident leader was truly rewarding."

Watching Child A grow from a shy participant to someone who confidently leads and supports others was incredibly rewarding.

Read more stories like Child A's here.



