

Child C's Story

Child C's winter experience at Carcroft Fusion Camp, transformed their holiday break through engaging winter sports, new friendships, and boosted confidence.



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Patrick Stothard, Sports Development Officer at Active Fusion

When the winter holidays arrived, Child C was faced with the all-too-familiar challenge of how to make the most of the festive season. With the cold weather keeping them indoors, it seemed like another quiet and uneventful break. However, this year, their family decided to try something new, Fusion Camp. Instead of spending the holidays cooped up inside, Child C's family saw the opportunity to give them a fun, active experience. This unforgettable experience was made possible through the generous funding of Doncaster Council's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme, which supported children in accessing enriching and enjoyable opportunities during the Christmas school holidays.

A New Adventure Begins

On the first day of camp, Child C arrived feeling a mix of excitement and uncertainty. They only knew their sibling, and the thought of interacting with strangers in such an unfamiliar environment was a little intimidating. However, the friendly, welcoming camp staff quickly put Child C at ease. With warm smiles and a sense of camaraderie, the coaches ensured that Child C felt comfortable and ready to embrace the day's activities.

Active Adventures

Before Fusion Camp, Child C's winter days were spent indoors, playing on their phone, lounging

on the sofa, or spending time with their dog. While these activities kept them entertained, they didn't offer the same excitement or growth that Fusion Camp would provide. With each activity, they were encouraged to leave behind the comfort of their usual routines and step into an active, festive atmosphere. The camp's structured environment brought an exciting twist to the winter holidays, offering Child C a chance to experience fun and adventure that was different from the typical holiday downtime.



Making Friends and Growing in Confidence

As the week progressed, Child C's growth was evident. Initially a little reserved, by the middle of the week, they became a confident and engaged participant. The supportive coaches and group activities allowed Child C to bond with others and form new friendships. The camp became a place where Child C no longer felt like an outsider but instead a valued member of a community. Coach Patrick remarked on Child C's transformation, saying, "Child C arrived on Monday only knowing their sister. Throughout the week, Child C has become a prominent character within the group and has made lots of friends as the week has gone on."

Feeling Safe and Supported in the Winter Cold

One of the most important aspects of Fusion Camp was the sense of safety and security that Child C felt throughout their time there. Despite the winter chill, the camp environment was warm with support. Child C mentioned, "It makes me feel safe because the staff have rules in place to make sure everything is done safely." This sense of security was crucial in allowing them to try new things and step out of their comfort zone, knowing they were in a place that valued their well-being above all else.



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The Elves Behind The Winter Magic

The camp coaches played a crucial role in making Child C's winter camp experience special. Child C described them as "nice, inventive, and fun," appreciating how the coaches brought creativity to



every activity, even in the winter months. Their energy and enthusiasm made the cold days feel lively, and their focus on creating a fun atmosphere kept Child C excited about each new day at camp. The coaches didn't just lead, they inspired, creating an environment where Child C could grow while still having plenty of fun.

A Holiday to Remember

As the camp week came to a close, Child C reflected on how much they had gained from the experience. They had learned new sports skills, made lasting friendships, and gained the confidence to try things they never thought possible during the holidays. With the festive atmosphere, outdoor adventures, and fun activities, this winter camp experience had redefined what a holiday could be. When asked if they would return to Fusion Camp, Child C replied eagerly, "Yes! It was fun, and it got me out exercising more. I want to do it again." The opportunity to stay active, make new friends, and try something different left a lasting impression on Child C, and they were excited to return next year.

Looking Ahead

Child C's winter experience at Fusion Camp was a remarkable one. The camp offered a blend of active fun, sports development, and personal growth that made this holiday season unforgettable. Child C left the camp feeling more confident, with new skills and friendships that would carry into the new year. The coaches, the winter-themed activities, and the supportive environment all played a role in making this holiday break one of growth, excitement, and connection. What began as a decision to try something new turned into an enriching and transformative experience, one that will shape Child C's approach to holidays and physical activity in the future.

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