

Intergenerational work between Mariners Resource Centre for people with a physical and sensory impairment- and local schools

Mariners Resource Centre is based in Beeston
Schools we have worked with:

- Bruntcliffe High School Morley
- St Francis Primary Beeston.

Mariners Resource Centre aims to

- provide support for and to empower independence, personal choice and control on how disabled people live their lives.
- challenge the barriers people face within society i.e. access, attitudes and working towards a social model approach.
- Mariners provides a place and resources where disabled people can develop skills and receive support to assist them in their aspirations for the future.
- the Centre also offers opportunities for service users to share skills, knowledge and experiences, socially, and educationally.

Staff and members of Mariners told us of some of their joint activities with local schools:

Bruntcliffe High

As part of a long-standing partnership, we visit Bruntcliffe most weeks in term time, working on projects along side Students on creating various structures. The end results have been on display in and around the school and outside Morley Town Hall. We are also involved with computer studies; service users have created a Mariners newsletter in the I.T. sessions,

Marion: *I have enjoyed the arts and craft sessions on Tuesdays especially the pottery classes, the students and staff have really made us feel welcome.*

Ray: *I have developed my computer skills and feel more confidence, the class was a bit daunting at first, but Elaine the Tutor was very patient and we all went at our own pace.*

St Francis Primary Beeston

Building Bridges Circle Time sessions: We feel the children and adults who are involved with the circle time sessions have forged a mutual respect and confidence in each other, in short we have all benefited in the intergenerational work.

- Awareness of disabilities.
- Development of listening skills.
- Breaking down barriers between different age groups.

We all feel the difficulties we have experienced i.e. transport or staffing levels, have been outweighed by the enthusiasm from everyone involved in these intergenerational partnerships

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