

LEADING LIGHTS

Name: Laura Knox

Job title: Programme Coordinator

Organisation: Warwickshire College,
Prince's Trust Team



Why do you do this work?

To help young people move themselves forward in life, everyone has something to offer, some people just need a hand to see what that may be! I deliver The Prince's Trust Team Programme which helps 16 – 25 year olds get back into training, education or employment. The programme is geared towards the Team Members making their own choices and choosing the directions the course will follow, this means I have never had 2 days the same in well over 3 years!

If there was one thing you could change for the Sector, what would it be?

Getting people who are not quite ready for the programme and just coming with us for the jolly of the residential! The Team Programme is open to people from all walks of life, if you're not ready to complete the course and get everything out of it its better to wait until you are!

What has been your proudest moment?

I have had many many proud moments, I have watched so many people turn their lives around and get into the careers that they desire. It is the best feeling when you have worked so close with someone and after 12 weeks they do themselves and me proud. It has also been fantastic to receive recognition for many years hard work in the way of awards from The Prince's Trust and The High Sheriff of Warwickshire.

What was your greatest disappointment?

My greatest disappointment has to be seeing people fail, there is only so much I can do to help people, the initial boost has to come from the individuals and they need to have the personal drive to succeed. Each time a person drops out its like a kick in the teeth for me, I begin to think whether I could have done something different.

What was the most useful mistake you've ever made and how was it useful?

The most useful mistake I have ever made was making a mistake and learning that its ok to make mistakes! This was a quick lesson when I began working for Warwickshire College Prince's Trust Team 3 & half years ago. When working with other people, particularly our cohort you will never get things right all the time. I learnt that I had more respect for allowing the Team Members to see when I have made a mistake! This led my career to develop well and help many young people move forwards in life!

What would your motto be?

Accept your past and all what may have happened to you, you can't change it! You make your life choices from now on and you are the only one who is going to get you where you want to be. Live your life for you!

What is your favourite colour?

Yellow

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