

**THE NINEVEH CHARITABLE TRUST PARK FARM FRITTENEDEN ROAD
BIDDENDEN ASHFORD KENT TN27 8LG Registered No. 256025 Tel: 01580 291531**

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Questionnaire

Tell us about yourselves

The Peak Academy is an SEMH (Social, Emotional and Mental Health) Special Senior School catering for 67 senior age children in Gloucestershire. All pupils are referred to the school from anywhere within Gloucestershire (the majority have been permanently excluded from mainstream education) and are recognised and identified as the most vulnerable pupils within the County. The pupils at the Peak and their families have been totally disengaged with the early developmental stages of childhood and many lack the care, love and nurture within their family home that is so vital for life-long learning. Many of our parents have been involved in alcohol and substance misuse and this has impacted upon the lives of our pupils, having a very damaging effect on their early childhood. Other examples of disadvantage we see include witnessing domestic violence, gang culture, sexual abuse and neglect. In some cases pupils have been removed from the parents and are now living with carers. Our vision as a school is to provide our pupils with a nurturing environment where they can fulfil their potential, academically but also behaviourally, emotionally and socially.

Tell us about the Funds

· Has the project we helped to fund been completed? If so, how is it maintained?

The funding has been used to start up a forest mentoring school. This is an ongoing project which provides inspirational process that offers ALL learners regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a woodland or natural environment with trees. This learner-centred approach interweaves with the ever-changing moods and marvels, potential and challenges of the natural world through the seasons to fill every Forest School session and programme with discovery and difference. Yet each programme does also share a common set of principles, aimed at ensuring that all learners experience the cumulative and lasting benefits that quality Forest mentoring offers. The project runs throughout the year with a small group of pupils who help look after the area and develop key skills.

· If not completed yet, why not? Are plans in place to finalise the project?

The project is ongoing and runs throughout the year. Another area may need to be sourced to allow current woodland to recover.

· Did the funds provided by us prove adequate, or was there an over- or under-spend?

The funding was adequate and allowed the school to purchase a great start-up kit and essential equipment.

· How were any surplus funds used, or was further funding made available?

All the funding was used to purchase essential equipment

Tell us about the project

· Has the project been successful and well received by the beneficiaries?

We currently have 5 pupils attending and all benefiting through regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a woodland or natural environment with trees.

· Are you satisfied with the outcome, or, with hindsight, would some modifications have been appropriate?

No satisfied currently, we will review the group as we move through the year.

· Was funding for this project made available from any other sources?

No – we only applied to Nineveh Charitable Trust for this funding.

Feedback about us

· How did you find our own process of selection and payment?

Very easy to use and prompt reply to application.

· Have you considered providing us with an update on the activities for which our Trust provided the funding?

Yes – we have extensive monitoring systems for our pupils at the Peak Academy for every intervention they access. We can share anonymised data and photos with you.

· Would you welcome a visit by our Trustees?

Yes – we would love you to see the work we do at the Peak with our very vulnerable cohort of pupils.

· Have you any other comments?

This questionnaire is part of our due diligence, obtaining feedback to help us, and we are grateful for your input – please return the questionnaire as soon as possible.