



## Compass House Christmas 2019 Evaluation Report

### Background

Compass House is a work experience project for students who attend the SILC's across the city. The Project started in 2018, staff from West SILC, East SILC, Broomfield SILC, North West SILC and the Lighthouse School supporting their students to meet on a regular basis to prepare to open a pop up shop in December 2018 for one week in Kirkgate Market, and then again for a week in July 2019 in the St John's Centre. Students make all the decisions i.e. name, colour scheme, promotional material etc. and also made all products to be sold.

### What we did

Following the success of the Christmas and Summer Compass House pop up shop staff and students came together in September 2019 to start to plan for their Christmas 2019 pop up shop. Students met every 3 weeks at different SILC's across the city to work together on promotional materials, a social media campaign and to make the products to be sold in their Christmas pop up shop that opened Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019 in Kirkgate Market.

Children and Families Service contributed £200 towards the promotional costs and Kirkgate Market provided the unit free of charge for the week.

### Promotion

The pop up shop was promoted via social media (@CompassHouseLS on facebook & twitter) as well as flyers being printed and distributed across the settings and organisations.

The project group create a 3 week social media campaign, with a different post for each day.

Staff and students promoted the shop on [BBC Radio Leeds breakfast show](#) as well as featuring in an article on the [Yorkshire Voice website](#).

Students from West SILC and NW SILC sang Christmas carols in Leeds Kirkgate on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019 to promote the opening of the shop and hand out flyers.

### Outcomes

Compass House was a great youth voice project which enabled staff and students from across the five settings to work in partnership to create a valuable work experience project.

A collective total of just over £1,000 was raised over the five days.

### Highlights and Achievements

The Compass House project provided students with a unique opportunity to gain meaningful and valuable work experience. During the course of the projects students personal developments were a highlight with students who are normally low in confidence interacting with customers and other students confidently.

As recognition for the commitment to the project, students have been recommended for a Leeds Youth Award.



## Learning

Compass House will be a long term partnership project that will continue to run on an annual basis. The five settings will work together on the lead up to the pop up shop opening and students from across the settings will be involved in creating products to sell as well as staffing the shop during opening hours.

- Opening for a week in December
- Request a bigger unit at Kirkgate Market to ensure there is plenty of space for students
- Coordinate prices across settings
- Staff to meet in January 2020 to discuss the plan for 2020

## Quotes from teachers

*"Lighthouse School students had an absolutely brilliant week at the shop - thank you all so much and special thanks to you Kayleigh for making it all happen.*

*We were able to get more staff and students on board this year and really feel that Compass House has a strong presence and profile in our School."*

**Sally, Light House School**

*"It was a great week, and students gained so much for taking part"*

**Jo, West SILC**

*"Compass House is a great way for students to experience an unfamiliar environment, gain confidence and improve their social skills. A great memory of this year's Compass House Christmas was two of our students stood outside the shop, deep in conversation with a couple of their colleagues from the West SILC...something which would not have happened had it not been for our involvement in the project"*

**Michael, NW SILC**

