

Satellite Club Impact – Corby Town Table Tennis Club

Theme: physical activity, individual development, children and young people women and girls

Defining the Issue

Providing relevant and inspiring opportunities for young people to participate in sport and be active is key in building physically active behaviours. The satellite club programme aims to provide new opportunities for young people to get active, by bridging the gap between school, college and community sport.

Background Information

The satellite club programme seeks to develop new long term opportunities for young people aged 11-25 to be involved in sport and physical activity. Clubs and community organisations are able to apply for funding to start new satellite sessions in order to target young people into regular physical activity.

Projects are funded to engage young people who are often underrepresented in sport, including women and girls, black and minority ethnic groups and young people in areas of deprivation.

With the support of satellite club funding, Corby Town Table Tennis Club created a new session at Kingswood Secondary Academy. The session attracted around 40 young people aged 11-25, including Mia who was 12 when she first attended the session. Mia had not played table tennis before, however since starting at the session Mia's involvement and commitment to table tennis has continued to grow.

The Impact

Since attending the sessions, Mia has made the transition to regularly attending Corby Town Table Tennis Club, as well as playing in the local league, the National Junior League and has represented Northants in the Junior County Championships. Her participation and commitment to the sport has developed her confidence and made her feel part of a community;

"I like table tennis because it has improved my health both mentally and physically. But most of all, I like table tennis because it has boosted my confidence so much and it makes me proud of being part of the table tennis community"



Mia is also on the club committee as a Junior Committee Member, making her the first ever junior member on the club's committee;

"I wanted to be part of the club committee because, being the oldest junior, I had started to accumulate more thoughts and opinions on the sport. So when I was voted to be the junior committee member, I saw this as an opportunity to express my opinions as a club member"

Mia's commitment has also extended to starting her coaching journey, by attending a TT Kidz Activator training and assisting in the delivery of TT Kidz sessions held at Corby Town Table Tennis Club;

"I wanted to become a TT Kidz activator, because for a while now I've wanted to train to become a table tennis coach, however I felt that it was too soon to do so. But, I thought that undergoing the training to become a TT Kidz activator, would be a start to me becoming a table tennis coach in the future"



Henry Arthur, Head Coach at Corby Town Table Tennis Club has high praise for what their satellite club funding has allowed them to achieve;

"The satellite club funding enabled Corby Town Table Tennis Club to take the sport into a different community setting and encourage more people to participate in table tennis. Several of the pupils made the move into our main coaching sessions at our club, increasing the number of club members and young people involved at the club"

Key Learnings

1. Satellite clubs provide an opportunity for young people to experience a new activity
2. Exit routes can allow participants to continue their player journey and further develop skills and regular playing habits
3. Transitioning into a club provides many more opportunities than just playing, including coaching and committee roles

Further Information

For more information on satellite club funding, visit <https://tabletennisengland.co.uk/clubs/clubs-guidance/satellite-clubs/>

For more information on Corby Town Table Tennis Club, visit <https://www.corbytownncc.co.uk/>



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