

CAST Angling Project SEND Report

Objectives and Goals of the CAST Angling Project

The CAST Angling Project aims to re-engage young people aged 13–19, including post-16 learners, through practical outdoor activities and vocational learning. Its goals include:

- Reignite interest in learning through hands-on experiences.
- Provide vocational qualifications.
- Develop life skills such as teamwork, communication, and responsibility.
- Support progression into further education, training, or employment.
- Promote wellbeing in a calm, sensory-friendly environment.

Needs and Challenges for SEND Students

SEND learners in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire often face:

- Low confidence and self-esteem due to repeated academic setbacks.
- Sensory and emotional regulation difficulties in traditional classrooms.
- Social isolation and limited opportunities for positive peer interaction.
- Barriers to employment without practical skills or qualifications.
- Mental health concerns, including anxiety and disengagement from education.

Activities and Programs Offered

CAST provides a mix of classroom and practical sessions:

- Angling sessions at local fisheries, teaching fish care and water safety.
- Land-based projects: horticulture, conservation, estate maintenance.
- Accredited courses: BTEC and City & Guilds.
- Community projects: habitat improvement and disability access installation.
- Partnerships with local schools, Youth Offending Services, and colleges.

Impact on Student Engagement and Inclusion

The project has shown strong positive outcomes:

- Improved attendance and engagement for students previously at risk of exclusion.

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- Enhanced confidence and resilience through success in practical tasks.
- Social inclusion via small-group work and cultural exchange projects.
- Progression pathways into further education or apprenticeships.
- Therapeutic benefits from outdoor settings reducing stress.

Policy in Action: How CAST Implements SEN and Medical Support

CAST actively applies its SEN and Medical Conditions Policy to ensure inclusive practice. Key implementations include:

- Education, Health, and Care Plans (EHCPs) tailored for each learner.
- Staff training in safeguarding, SEN strategies, and healthcare procedures.
- Medication management aligned with CAST Medication Administration Policy.
- Inclusive participation in trips and activities, with adjustments as needed.
- Clear complaints process and feedback mechanisms for parents and students.

"No child with a medical condition or SEN is denied admission or participation." – CAST Policy

"Staff receive induction and ongoing training to support pupils effectively." – CAST Policy