



## SPECIAL EU PROGRAMMES BODY

### Project Case Study: Futures Project

#### THEME:

Children & Young People

#### FUNDING (ERDF + Match):

€3,085,382.20

#### MATCH FUNDERS:

Department for Economy (Northern Ireland),  
Department of Children and Youth Affairs (Republic of Ireland)

#### LEAD PARTNER:

Belfast Met

#### PROJECT PARTNERS:

Start 360, NI Housing Executive, Southern Regional College

Start Date: 01/08/2017

End Date: 30/04/2022



[www.belfast.ac.uk](http://www.belfast.ac.uk)



@Futures4youth



An Roinn Leanaí agus Gnóthai Óige  
Department of Children and Youth Affairs

The Futures project is partnership between Belfast Met, Start360 and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive. It is a programme specifically designed for young people aged 16-24 to enhance their capacity to form positive and effective relationships with others of a different background and make a positive contribution to building a more cohesive and forward-looking society.

Speaking at the launch of the project Damian Duffy, Director of Development in Belfast Metropolitan College said:

*“We are delighted to be leading the Futures Project which reflects the College’s strategy of contributing to a thriving economy while supporting the active inclusion of young people who face particular challenges or require additional support. Futures will ensure that participating young people develop their potential and access opportunities to contribute to the continued economic success and social wellbeing of the city and wider region.”*



Official launch of the project on Thursday 2 August at Belfast Met e3 campus.



Northern Ireland Executive

[www.northernireland.gov.uk](http://www.northernireland.gov.uk)



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The Futures project will offer qualifications (OCN Level 2 Award in Personal Success and Well-being), residential trips and a mentor for the duration of the programme. Futures will also enhance the capacity of young people to form positive and effective relationships with others of a different background and make a positive contribution to building a cohesive society.

Project participant, Catherine (aged 23) said: *"I feel I've come on leaps and bounds since joining Futures! It's been an amazing experience right down to the tearful end. Making lifelong friendships, new found confidence and better awareness when it comes to others and my own mental health. My eyes have been opened to new perspectives of the community as well as an understanding of people's views and opinions."*

Project participant, Thomas (aged 20) said: *"I came to Futures as I was jobless, out of education and aimless in my life. I had been struggling with mental health issues and had a lot of mental blocks. Since joining in early October, I have developed a lot of confidence and have figured out my career path and want to be a youth worker! This course essentially changed my outlook, my ideas and basically my life."*



#### Project Key Outputs:

- The project will engage with 669 marginalised children and young people to develop their soft skills and a respect for diversity.



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