

Impacts of the Initiative



There was a very large appreciation for the Prince's Trust Initiative, provided by the LTI. The Travellers are aware that without it, they would have very limited options: either home schooling from parents who can read and write, or a personal tutor if they could afford it.

Changed perception towards education

For many, thanks to the initiative, they are going to college. For others who previously didn't realise the benefits or purpose of school/ formal learning, they altered their perceptions of education and what education could do for them.

Attainment & qualifications

The impact of getting qualifications has had a wider impact on the community as a whole. Parents are becoming more open to the idea of their children going to college and future careers, as well as rethinking their own options in education.

Employability skills

For the older participants, employability skills are practised, such as interviews skills and CV-writing. The Prince's Trust qualifications stand the learners in good stead for employability & FE.

New options & possibilities

The initiative provides the option of getting a job that wasn't considered previously. For female Travellers, they can consider being independent before they marry, and male Travellers can back up their skills in manual jobs with qualifications, to upskill in the future.

Improved confidence

Confidence generally improved across the board. Participants were proud that they could pursue these options, and the certificates boosted their self-esteem. This gives them more confidence to form a connection to the 'outside world'.

Improved knowledge on health

The base-level of health among Traveller communities is generally poor. The initiative provides valuable information on nutrition and healthcare, e.g. First Aid.

Overall, the initiative had a cumulative effect of increasing motivation. Those who had successfully gained qualifications had a desire to go on to the next step, and, in turn, parents, younger siblings, and other relatives, witnessed the success of the initiative and were inspired to educate themselves, too.

Summary

In **very specific situations**, with learners who require a range of **specialised interventions** depending on their gender, location, community, parents' attitudes, etc., the LTI Prince's Trust initiative **addresses barriers** and **successfully equips learners with education and qualifications**.

Learners in this intervention gain some or all of the following educational benefits:

- A developed knowledge of the benefits of Further Education
 - Experience of a HE campus
- The opportunity to study subjects that align with their personal interests and future careers
 - Confidence in their academic abilities
 - Study skills
 - Prince's Trust qualifications

The initiative also provides a stable careers programme for the learners, which addresses the needs of each pupil, offers personal guidance, and links learning to future careers.

On top of these measurable NERUPI/Gatsby objectives, The Prince's Trust initiative is supporting the LTI in fulfilling a crucial role in providing support and services that Travellers are otherwise unable, or not confident, to access in mainstream society. This intervention has become imperative in the lives of Travelling Communities. Without it the communities would experience significantly lower educational outcomes, lesser ambitions and worse health.

As a final note, arguably the largest, prevailing barrier for Travellers is prejudice and bullying. In placing Travellers in colleges, the LTI ensures that other students mix with Traveller students. Therefore, an indirect consequence of the LTI is helping to educate others about Travellers, making a dent on societal prejudice and helping to subvert ingrained cultural stereotypes that have led to pervasive discrimination, racism and violence against Travellers.