



PERCY HEDLEY AT CIRCUS CENTRAL

IMPACT REPORT 2023



Percy Hedley
FOUNDATION



**SPORT
ENGLAND**

INTRODUCTION



This project was the pilot of our new initiative 'PWB produces'. As a registered charity, we partner with other organisations to apply for large grants and then mentor and backstop the process of setting up a project. We lend equipment, if required, and support with administration and technical support.

We partnered with Circus Central in Newcastle and Percy Hedley Foundation. We applied for the grant, managed the administration and mentored the staff. The team at Circus Central delivered the activities at their circus space to Percy Hedley and did the data recording after each session.

The project was a success and the arrangement worked well, demonstrating the great potential of this new model!

We will do more 'PWB produces' projects in the future and explore different Partner Organisations and funding possibilities. This model will hopefully help the Social Circus sector to deliver more circus for everyone.



PERFORMERS
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BORDERS



SUMMARY

PWB and Circus Central provided circus workshops using circus toys, equipment and skills in new ways to create sensory experiences appropriate to the students. Workshop leaders worked with students and their support staff to facilitate sessions that were engaging, fun and stimulating for all.

We facilitated:

- **10** sessions
- Attended by **41** participants
- Totalling **200** hours
- For participants aged **18–25**

With support from:

- **2** facilitators per session
- **3** volunteers
- **35** partner staff



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ACTIVITIES



Circus Workshops



Games and drama



Performances



SEN activities



Seminar



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PERCY HEDLEY SAYS...

Circus Central and the staff team involved have been absolutely amazing for our students. The difference in our students' confidence after attending the sessions is phenomenal and the strategies the team has put in place to break down barriers is astonishing...

Everything they did had a positive outcome and was tailored to individuals' needs to ensure the equality of all aspects of circus skills. We look forward to working with you again in the future and really do appreciate all Circus Central did to accommodate us. The team had high but realistic expectations for the students with many opportunities for them to take positive risks which in turn builds their self esteem and confidence.



*"They made what
some may
perceive to be
impossible,
become
possible..."*

*and that is truly
inspiring."*

HORIZON SCANNING.. .

As the dust begins to settle at Circus Central, we very much hope that we can continue our work with the Percy Hedley Foundation.

We particularly hope that we can deliver some sessions on site at the college with our portable aerial rig so that participants can benefit from having access to hoists and physios to enable as many people as possible to enjoy the freeing feeling of being in the aerial cocoons.

“The participants particularly enjoyed using the aerial silks as parachutes.

Staff pushed them through in their wheelchairs and the reaction was joyous.”



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Contact

Performers Without Borders
<https://www.pwb.ngo/>

Circus Central
<https://www.circuscentral.co.uk/>

