



Chuckle ArtShed #1

2021-2024



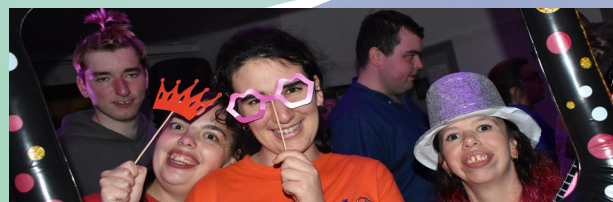
About ArtShed#1

The ArtShed Project provided hands-on life skills and training for young adults aged 16+ who face barriers to mainstream employment due to additional needs.

Over three years, participants engaged in arts-based training and supported internships, equipping them with employability skills, confidence, and independence.

Impact

- Developed films challenging perceptions of disability.
- Promoted inclusivity within businesses and schools.
- Worked with The Commonwealth Games.
- Produced a range of educational resources for parents, schools, nurseries and the Chuckle Channel.
- Launched the "Give a Chuckle – Friends of Chuckle" fundraising campaign.
- Artshed participants created and published magazines.
- Provided accessibility and inclusivity feedback to local businesses.
- Gained ASDAN qualifications in Employability.
- Secured paid or volunteer roles post project.
- Completed training in workplace skills.
- Created the Kaleidoscope micro-business as well as selling created products online.



Skills Growth

- Participants developed artistic and creative skills through hands-on workshops.
- Growth in teamwork, and problem-solving abilities.
- Enhanced communication, confidence, emotional regulation, and teamwork.
- Stronger social connections, relationships, and sense of belonging.
- Greater personal growth, ambition, and purpose.
- Increased employability.
- Reduction in isolation and improved access to qualifications.

One student said...

"I have learnt that I am enough, that I am my own person, and that the things that make me unique can help me with my work"



Stories from the ArtShed

Mackenzie's Story



Before joining the ArtShed, Mackenzie felt unsupported in school and left without qualifications, which deeply affected her confidence and mental health. Nervous but hopeful, she joined the Chuckle ArtShed programme—a turning point in her life.

Over three years, Mackenzie developed creative and professional skills including video editing, event planning, and business communication, while also gaining a formal qualification. With tailored support and a flexible approach, the ArtShed helped Mackenzie rediscover her love of learning in an environment that worked for her.

The programme didn't just build her skills—it gave her purpose, self-belief, and emotional growth. Mackenzie learned to work in teams, lead projects, and understand her own strengths. Today, she is proudly employed by Chuckle as a workshop facilitator.

Reflecting on her journey, Mackenzie says, "I can't think about where I'd be without the ArtShed. **I've learned to not let my disabilities define me.**"

Sebbie's Story

When Sebbie joined the ArtShed, he was unsure of his next steps after formal education ended. Born with a chromosome anomaly, Sebbie found social situations difficult and struggled with low confidence and emotional expression. But he had a clear desire: to keep learning and be part of something meaningful.

Over three years on the programme, Sebbie has flourished. He has developed creative and professional skills—including podcasting, vlogging, and office administration—and gained a formal ASDAN qualification in Employability. He now volunteers at Chuckle, supporting on fundraising and admin tasks with real pride and purpose.

His family describes the transformation as "remarkable." Once shy and unsure, Sebbie now greets visitors with confidence, takes on responsibilities at home and in the community, and takes pride in his creative work, and has his own kindness Foundation.

"The nurturing environment at Chuckle has helped Sebbie truly believe in himself," his family said. **"He's grown in confidence, communication and self-worth—he feels part of something, and that's made all the difference."**

