

Chloe Brownbill Girls Active Committed Learner Winner, Central Region



Chloe, 15, from Great Marlow School in Buckinghamshire, had always struggled with a severe lack of confidence in her academic ability. Although her teachers recognised she had real potential, Chloe's lack of self-belief was holding her back from participating in class. She felt she couldn't speak up in front of others and, consequently, struggled to engage with her lessons. Her teachers felt Chloe could benefit from getting involved with the Girls Active leadership programme. Despite being reluctant at first, she was persuaded to attend a sports activity day.

Chloe returned from the activity day with a newfound confidence that enabled her to talk to other students and lead activities. She has been inspired to organise events for other students, juggling this with her school work even while she completes exams. Chloe has been the real driving force behind the weekly Girls Active club at her school which has seen a huge increase in participation since it began, with numbers growing week on week. Students love being given the opportunity to try new sports, with volleyball proving particularly popular.

Chloe now has the confidence to speak in front of large groups and to encourage her peers to get involved with sport, something she feels strongly about. Knowing herself how daunting it can be to get involved with sport, Chloe is passionate about building the confidence of younger girls so that they don't miss out on the benefits of team activity.

Chloe continued to blossom in her role as a Girls Active leader, which saw her concentration and effort in lessons double. The impact on her academic performance was soon obvious, and her PE teacher, Jenny Towe, nominated her for a Girls Active Committed Learner award. The Committed Learner award recognises improved commitment to learning as a direct result of increased sports participation.

'I help out at our school sports club and I think it builds a lot of girls' confidence, especially those in younger years,' explains Chloe. 'I used to be scared about what other people thought, but now I'm a lot more confident. Getting more involved with sport has really helped my leadership skills. It's definitely had an impact on my classwork too, because now I know that I can do things if I try.'

'Chloe has always been a good student, but she seriously lacked self-belief, which hindered her academic progress. Since being selected as a Girls Active leader, her effort in PE lessons and other subjects has improved tremendously,' says Jenny Towe.

