

## Sample Case Study

### **Steven Jones\*** Ex-Salmon Youth Centre Club Member, Volunteer and GAP scheme volunteer

Steven\* is one of a number of young people who have grown up in the area, still live locally, and who now volunteer for clubs.

Steven first came to the club in the 6-9's group. He has regularly attended over the years before eventually becoming a volunteer when he was 20 years old. After volunteering at the Centre, Steven applied to become one of the Salmon Youth Centre's GAP scheme volunteers.

Steven joined the GAP scheme after wanting to take a year out from studying. Although he had no concrete plans for his GAP year, Steven has always been a keen sports player and was interested in completing some sort of sports-related training.

Steven had chosen to do his GAP scheme with the Salmon Youth Centre as he says "I am comfortable at the Salmon. I live just round the corner and Salmon is close to home. The Centre is located in 'his area'; the area he grew up in and is used to". Steven is used to the people here; he worked alongside and is supported by workers he knew and works with young people he grew up with".

Steven began his GAP year by studying English, Maths and IT at the local Bede College with plans to use these qualifications to get onto a Foundation studies course.

Through experience and contacts gained at the Salmon Youth Centre, Steven applied for and was accepted for a job that involved studying for a foundation studies course at the same time as working as a trainee sports development worker. Steven feels that his 5-year course "is good, he is supported at work and can work and still do the course he wanted to do". In the future Steven wants and has the opportunity to go on to gain experience from other clubs, The Salmon's longstanding presence in the community has meant that his first few opportunities to explore his future have been given in an environment where he feels, which is the vision of the Salmon Youth Centre, confident and comfortable 'to find meaning and direction for his life'.

(\*his name has been changed at his request)



“The Gap scheme has given Steven the opportunity to find a course that he can work on at the same time as studying. Steven has the independence gained through a full time job at the same time as giving him the chance to study his chosen course.