

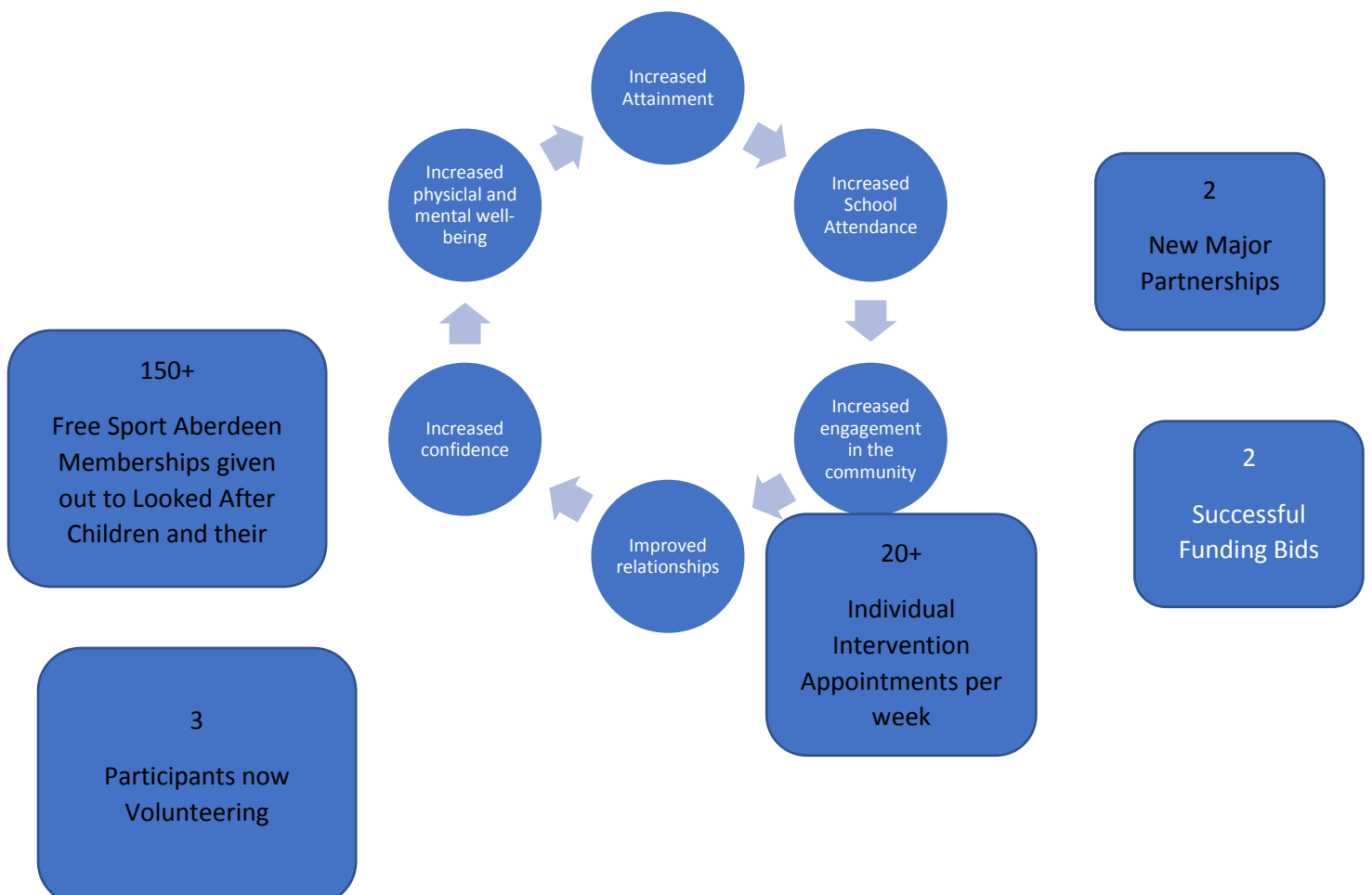
Looked After Project Update

The Looked After Project has continued to provide positive impacts in the lives of looked after children and young people in Aberdeen over the course of 2018. As the project has matured the individual interventions process with children and young people has been refined to increase the positive impact it has on participants.

The interventions have continued to mostly focus on high action activities, such as BMXing, Horse Riding, Skateboarding and Ice Skating. Volunteering opportunities both helping coach at sports activities and helping at the stables

The year has also seen the first stage of the project expanding. The successful funding application, in partnership with Aberdeen Foyer, to the Changes Lives Trust resulted in additional funding being awarded to the project. This has allowed the recruitment of 2 additional staff to the project. These Project Activators allow for the number of interventions the project can offer to increase. Further to this through the partnership with Aberdeen Foyer the project can now offer SQA Level 2 Personal Achievement Awards to be offered to participants, helping to raise attainment levels.

Further funding has also recently awarded from the Changing Lives Through Sport and Physical Activity Fund. In partnership with Action For Children, the project will further develop and support the Priority Families programme in Aberdeen. The funding will allow the recruitment of an additional Project Activator who will work with families who have been identified as being at risk and use the same interventions model and use sport and activity and aim to improve the lives of these families and prevent requiring social work support.



Case Studies

YP - A – Volunteering

Young Person A is in third year at school and has worked with the LA Project for two years. He was involved in individual activities but from October to December 2018, he volunteered in a tennis session in a local primary school. Such was the success of this, particularly the positive feedback from the school's head teacher, A has been invited to support a football session in the school.

Building on his achievements, we are planning for A to take part in a Young Leaders coaching course to increase his social skills, support more positive peer relationships as well as helping A to think about positive destinations. This is all part of A's flexible timetable.



YP B – Personal Achievement Award / Achievements in horse riding

Child B is in primary two in school and has been working with the LA Project since April 2018. He was taking part in weekly horse riding lessons which quickly proved to be of significant therapeutic value given the 1-2-1 time with adults, the relationship and care for the ponies as well as the successes and achievements each week. B's home circumstances had been deteriorating and B was spending less and less time in class, presenting with increasing traumatised behaviours. As such, his time out with the LA Project was increased.

B has now moved to a foster placement and the LA Project continued to visit and be involved in his ongoing plans.

YP C – Horse Riding and PAA

Young Person C has been working with the LA Project, taking part in horse riding lessons as well as a stable management course at the riding school. C is a very regular attendee and enjoys his time within the riding school. C is now working towards completing an SQA Personal Achievement Award, which we have been able to offer due to our partnership with Aberdeen Foyer.

