

True life story

Hayley Draper

East of England



WITHOUT THE PRINCE'S TRUST SUPPORT, I'D PROBABLY STILL BE UNEMPLOYED. MY BUSINESS MENTOR - PETER SHIELDS - HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL TO MY SUCCESS. AT FIRST, WE HAD FORTNIGHTLY MEETINGS WHERE WE REVIEWED MY PROGRESS AND TALKED ABOUT ANY CHALLENGES WHILE PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE. PETER ALSO PROVIDED MORAL SUPPORT TO KEEP ME MOTIVATED.

I have overcome several problems in my childhood, later including long-term unemployment, to set up one of the country's most talked about businesses. I've always had a passion for coffee and always dreamt of owning my own cafe but never thought it would be possible. I got in touch with a local enterprise agency that helped me with some training courses and referred me to work with The Trust. With a loan of £3,000, The Window opened in November 2009 and is a cornerstone of Norwich's tradition for interesting and independent shops. I feel that my Business Mentor was instrumental in my success, providing me with business and moral support.

The business has grown at a great speed and I have proved to be skilful in understanding the needs of my customers. I am now determined to pass on my experience to other business start-ups across Norfolk.



Prince's Trust

