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| **Name** | **The Donkey Sanctuary Birmingham** |
| **Learner Group** | They offer donkey-assisted therapy and interaction to local school children with additional needs. Hoping to broaden this in the near future. |
| **Website** | www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk |
| **Place** | Sutton Park Birmingham BT4 2YT UK |
| **What does it do?** | Offers animal interactions with children with special needs and behavioural needs. Key areas included resilience, empathy, managing emotions, communications and skills.  The service is also mobile. |
| **Duration of learning programme** | 6 weeks programme, 1 day per week |
| **How often do they attend?** | Ongoing with individuals. |
| **How are people referred?** | Mental Health teams, social services, self referral. schools |
| **Aims** | **Improve children’s behaviour, social interactions and provide support and safe relocation of donkeys across the world** |
| **How is success measured?** | Attendance  Improved communication, behaviours. |
| **Evaluation techniques used** | Group discussion, observations. |
| **Name of organisation** | The Donkey Sanctuary Birmingham |
| **Governance and Management** | 10 Trustees/directors  Charity Status |
| **Learning pathways/progression routes** | Participants can progress to being a volunteer.  Returning to main stream education |
| **How is it funded?** | Grants, donations, sales, regular supporters |
| **What is the cost per learner per day?** | Free of charge, funded through supporters |
| **Typical activities** | Feeding, cleaning, health and hygiene, non-riding interactions. |
| **Challenges** | * Main stream funding * Making more people aware of the benefits of animal therapy * Funding comes from mainly donations * Change * Data collection * Measuring impact * Looking for a new direction and strategy * Want to branch out to recovering addicts, post-traumatic stress disorder, youth offender, children who are fostered or adopted. |
| **What problems are tackled and how?** | * Emotional behaviour and confidence and self esteem of people with varying health and social care needs. The sanctuary is really interested in working with refugees and asylum seekers, victims of human trafficking * Interaction means they can work with different groups not just children. * Children with autism * Visually impaired |
| **Social Impact** | * Improve emotional skills and behaviour. * Improve social skills, confidence, self-esteem. * “This isn’t just a sanctuary for animals, this is a sanctuary for people” Rose - Volunteer |
| **Links to National Strategies** | * Natural England * Green Tourism. * Riding for the Disabled |