



IMPACT REPORT



2022 - 2023



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BENEFICIARIES

YOUNG PEOPLE EXPERIENCING COMPLEX TRANSITIONS TO ADULTHOOD

We work with 17-25 year olds facing complex challenges in their lives. We aim to provide meaningful development opportunities through outdoor adventure and access to nature. Across 2022/23, we did this through the delivery of our adventure trek expeditions and adventure camps.

Our treks and camps are fully funded, at no cost to the young person, and include the costs of travel, equipment, food and activities.

To ensure we work with young people who would benefit the most, we have a robust referral process that is designed to understand what support young people might need to join us. We then work with the young people and referral partners to remove any barriers to access.

PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS

We work with people of all ages and organisations of all sizes to facilitate outdoor and creative teambuilding adventures. Through the delivery of our high-quality, high-impact events, teams of people experience a myriad of personal and team development benefits, whilst supporting young people to have an adventure of their own through our social business model.



OUR APPROACH

TEAM ADVENTURES WITH REAL IMPACT

We design and deliver teambuilding adventures that foster team collaboration and creative problem solving whilst strengthening people's connection to the outdoors and to each other. These principles are symbiotic to our wider youth mission and the foundation of our social business model.

OPPORTUNITY THROUGH ADVENTURE

We enable young people to access adventurous opportunities that empower them to succeed and build teamwork, confidence and skills to achieve their goals. Adventurous activities in a supportive environment can unleash potential and develop a range of transferable skills. These experiences can be a catalyst for further development and act as a pathway to training and employment.

OUTDOORS FOR EVERYONE

We work with young people to understand and remove barriers they may face in accessing nature and outdoor activities. These include perceptual (e.g belonging and safety) and practical (e.g cost, transport) barriers. Through improved access we can empower young people to experience the proven health and wellbeing benefits spending time in nature provides.

NURTURED BY NATURE

We encourage creative, practical and reflective ways to connect to the natural environment by facilitating our activities in wild spaces. Through increasing connection and understanding of others and the planet, young people can become passionate leaders and active global citizens

EVOLVING OUR MISSION

When Pendragon Project launched in 2021, we set ourself the mission to **harness the power of nature and outdoor adventure, to create opportunities for young people to thrive, reach their potential and achieve their goals.**

We are very proud of all the young people we have worked with to date and the positive outcomes we have achieved together, through connecting young people to nature and outdoor adventure experiences.

After three years growing Pendragon Project's social business model and delivering activities for young people facing complex transitions to adulthood, we are now in the process of evaluating our impact. We will be updating our theory of change to reflect the next phase in Pendragon Project's development with the ambition of growing and sustaining impact we can make in partnership with young people. Our new theory of change and youth strategy will be launched later in 2024.



2022/23 SNAPSHOT

48

Young People (17-25) took part in our treks and camps

3

Pendragon Project Peaks Adventure Trek expeditions delivered

2

Adventure Camps run in partnership with local authorities

230

team adventure activities delivered

3600

participants joined on our adventures

429

of those were children and young people

10

from 10 youth organisations



PEAKS ADVENTURE TREK

In 2022/23, Pendragon Project delivered three Peaks Adventure Treks for young people. These treks were funded and delivered by Pendragon Project using profits from our commercial team building adventures.

Each trek lasted five days and included trekking over 40km on challenging terrain through the Peak District, carrying rucksacks and making camps. Participants received training in camp skills, dynamic risk assessments, trail walking, navigation, bushcraft and survival skills. They also took part in campfire storytelling and musical workshops, and adventure activities including a high ropes assault course.

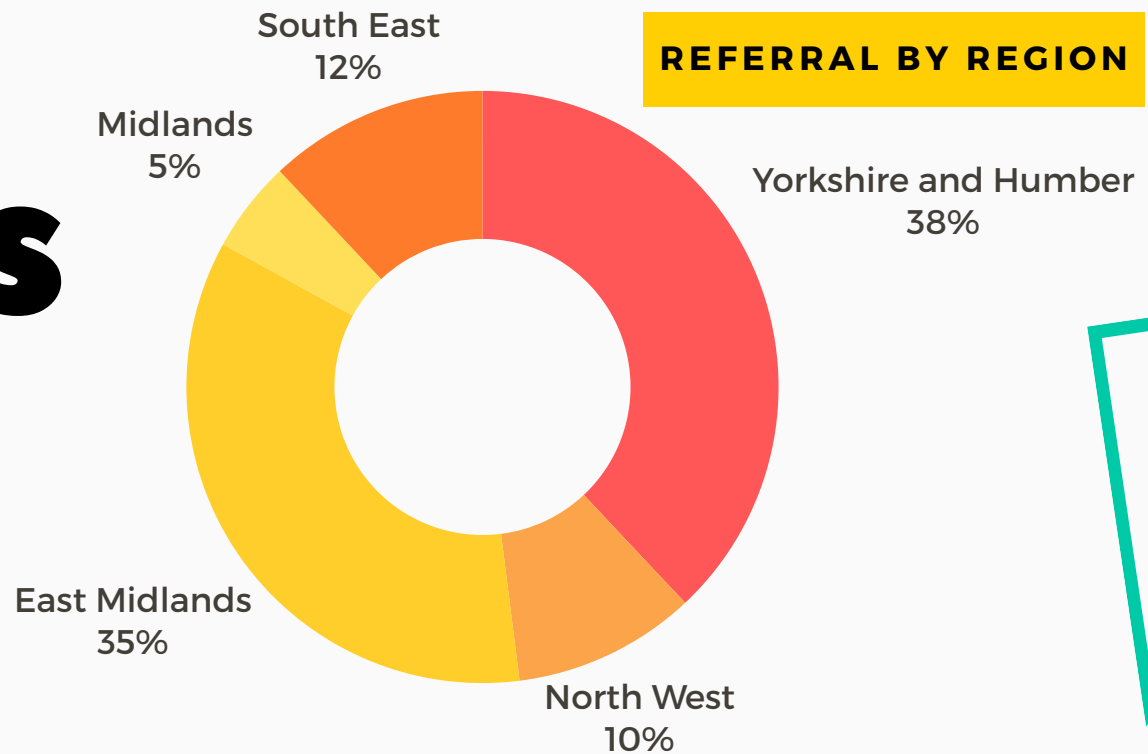
We received grant funding from Outdoors for All, Thornbridge for Everyone and Nineveh Charitable Trust. Their support allowed us to deliver a range of exciting adventure activities as part of the expedition experience, maximizing the impact for our young people.



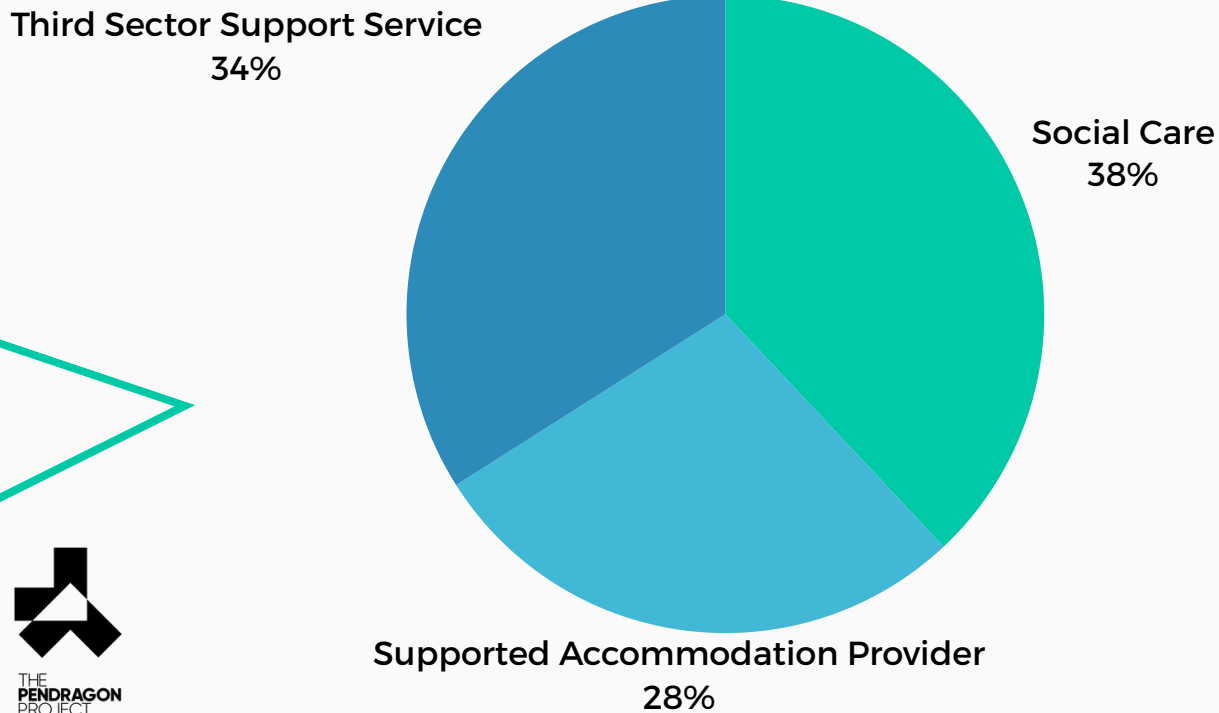
REFERRALS

In 2022/23 we received 109 referrals for a total of 45 available expedition places.

REFERRAL BY REGION



REFERRAL BY SECTOR



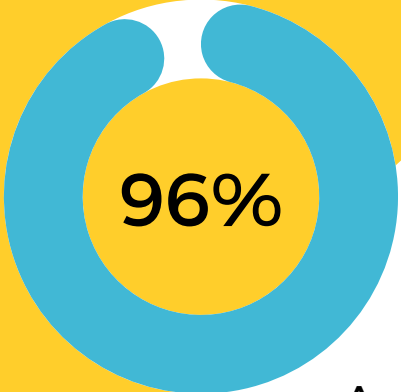
Referrals were split between social care, third sector support services and supported accommodation providers.

The majority of young people referred were living in the East Midlands, and Yorkshire and Humber

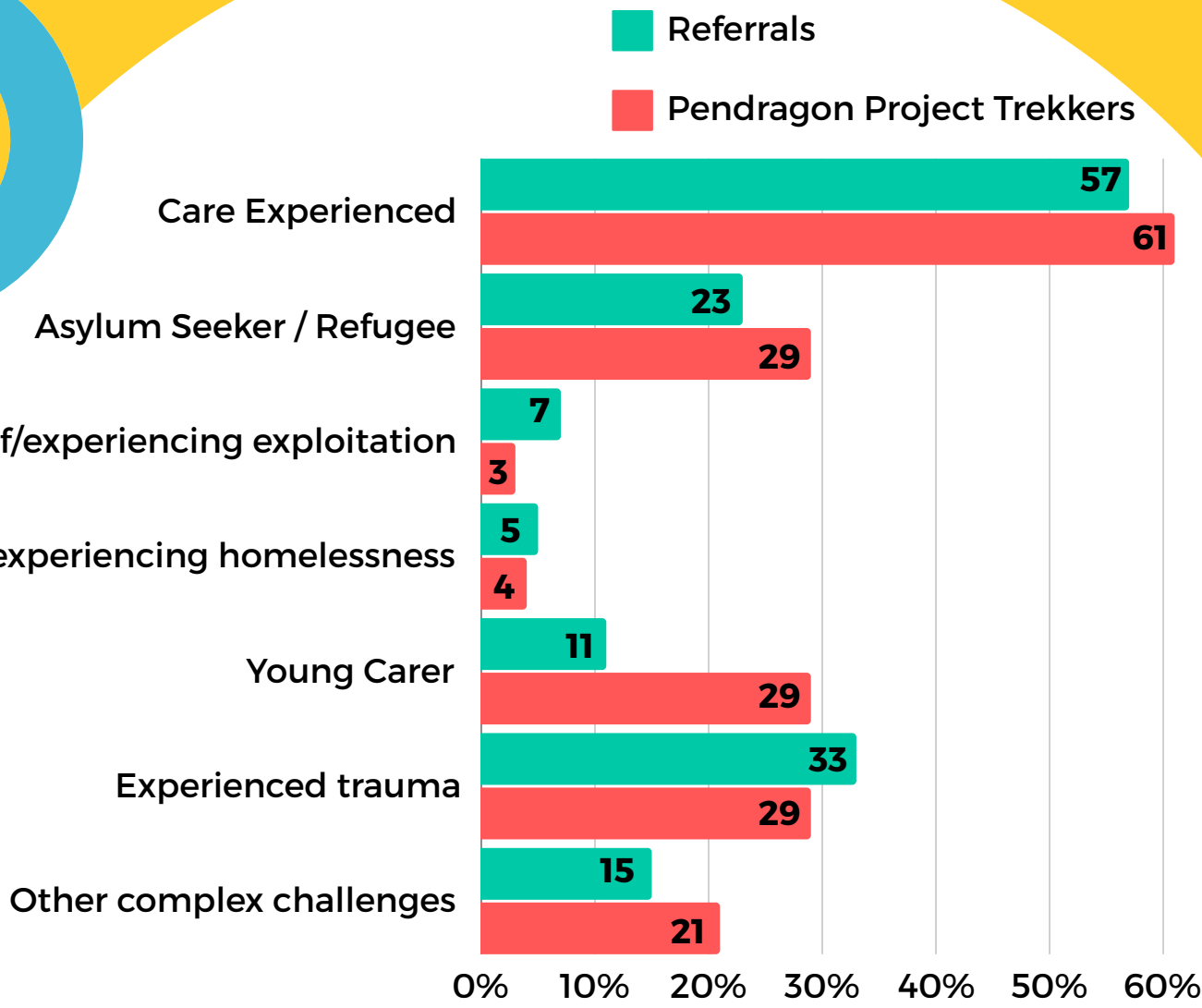
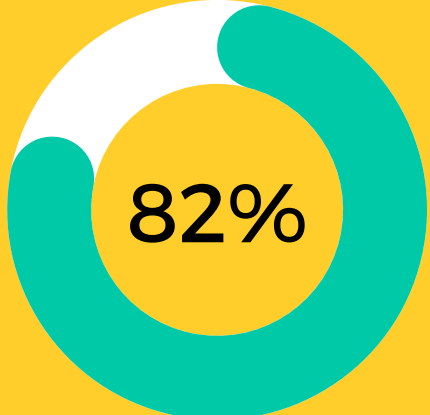
FACTORS AFFECTING YOUNG PEOPLE'S LIVES



96% of young people who joined our treks were experiencing two or more factors that made their life more challenging



82% of all young people who joined our treks told us they were experiencing problems with their mental health

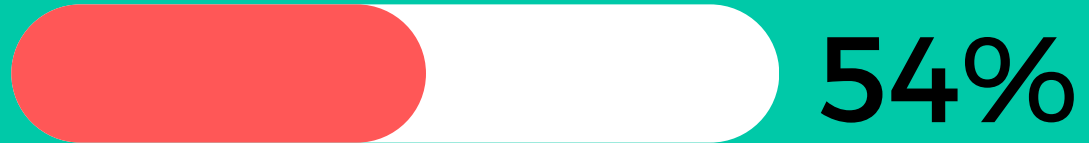


complex challenges faced by young people

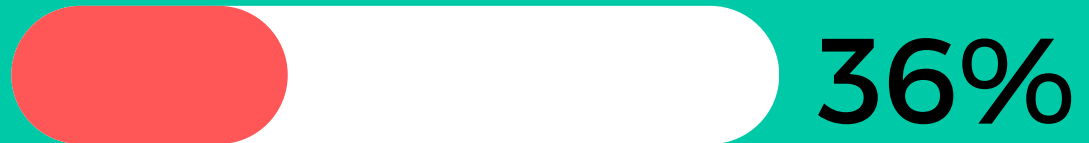
TREKKER STATS

We asked the young people that joined our expeditions how they identified as part of our equalities and diversity monitoring. We did not gather this information at the referral stage

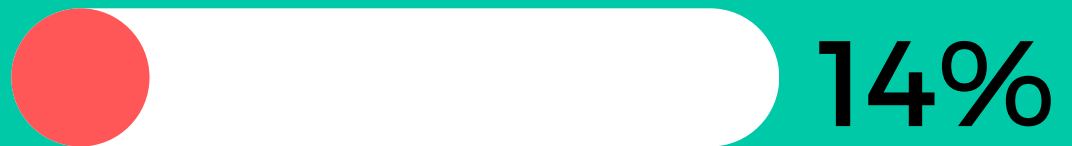
Black and Global Majority



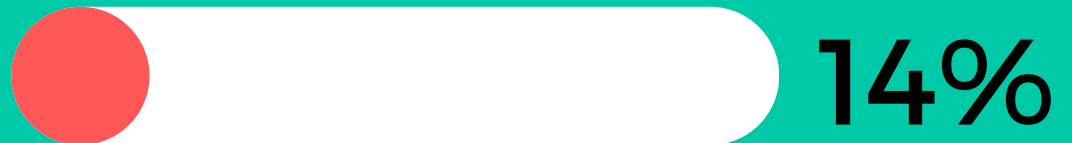
Neurodivergent / Additional Learning Needs



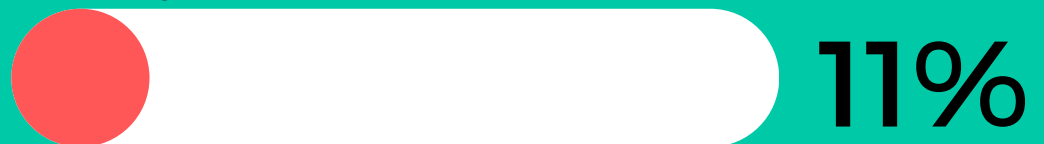
Disabled



Not in Employment, Education or Training

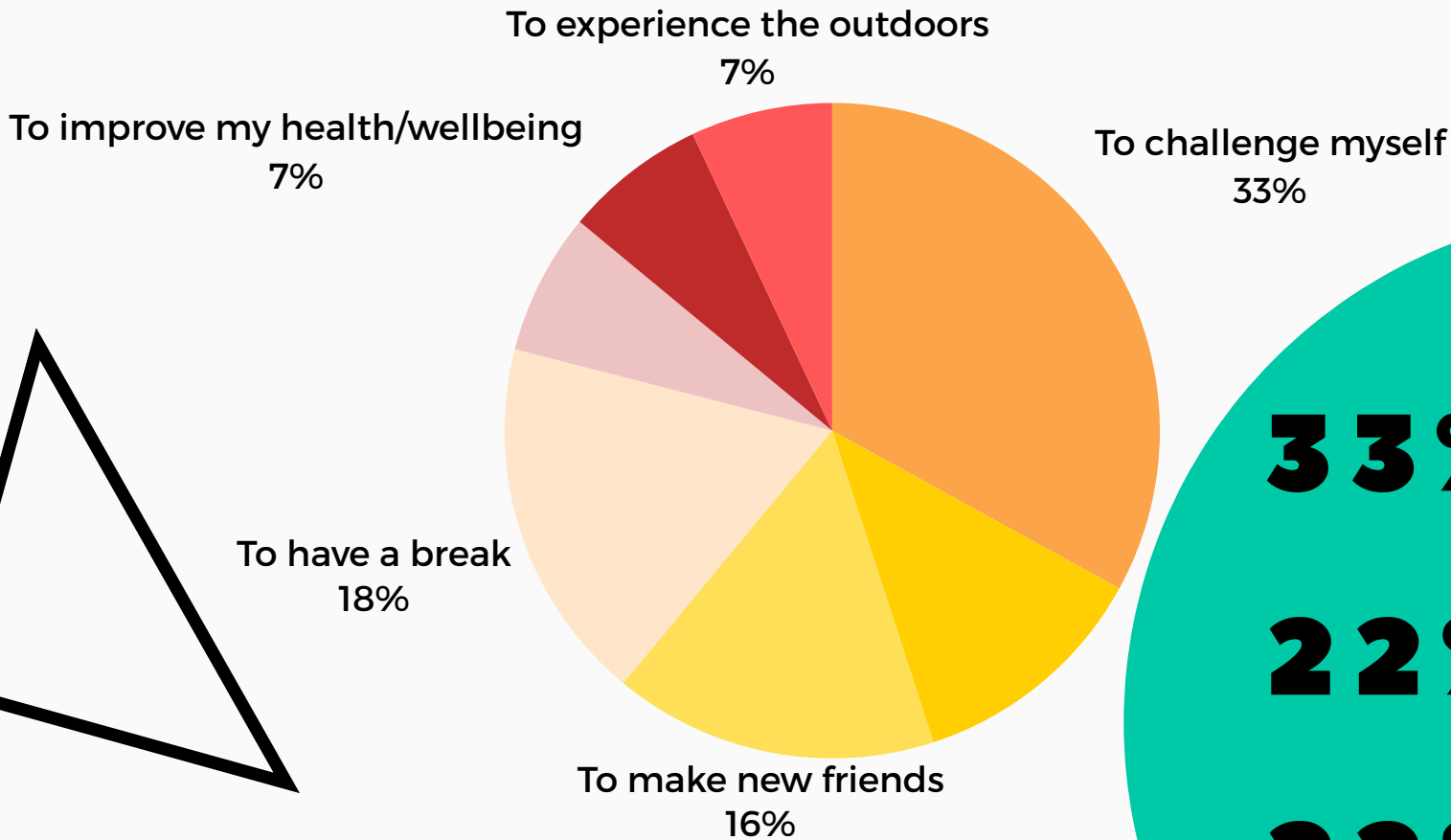


LGBTQ+



BEFORE TREK

We asked our young people what their main reason for joining our adventure trek was. They told us that challenging themselves, having a break and making friends were most important to them.



33% Had never been camping or trekking

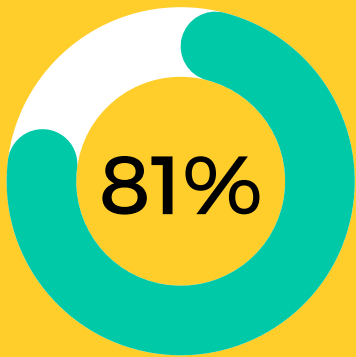
22% Had never been to the countryside

22% Had never done an outdoor adventure activity

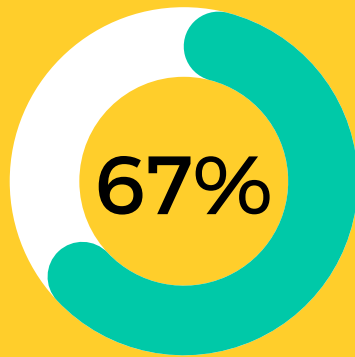
We also asked what their experience of outdoor adventure was before joining us

INCREASED HEALTH AND WELLBEING

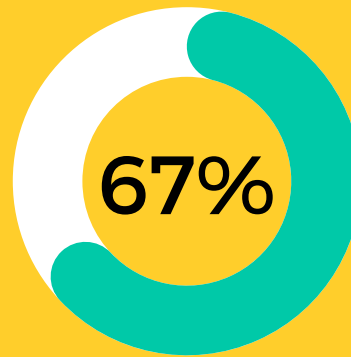
Our young people told us that expedition had a very positive impact on them. They felt happier, healthier, more confident and positive as a result of the experience.



Felt happier



Felt healthier



Felt more positive



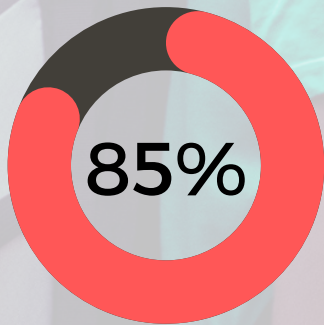
Felt more confident

“I met many like minded people, some with similar issues. The feeling of accomplishment at the end was incredible ”

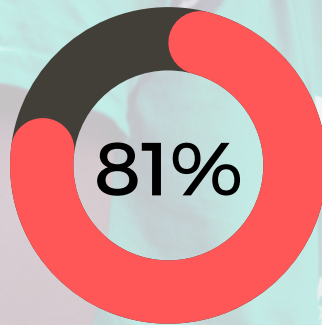
“It was a positive experience for me because I thought I would give up on the first day, but I was able to complete the whole walk.”

NEW SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

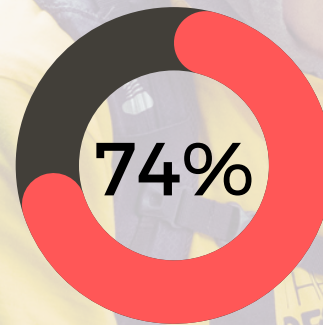
Our young people felt they had gained or improved on a range of practical and transferable soft skills. Notably our trekkers felt their teamwork and social skills had greatly improved after taking part in the expedition, as well as an increased sense of resilience through developing their outdoor adventure and survival skills.



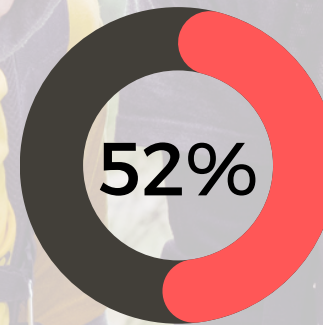
Improved social skills



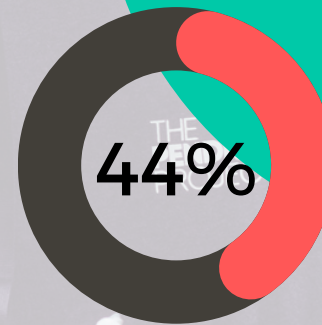
Improved teamwork and collaboration skills



Improved resilience through adventure



Improved practical skills



Developed leadership skills

“This experience taught me that hard work pays off, taking a break from the drama and problems at home to the peaceful, sensory, countryside. New faces, new start”

“I challenged myself, I gained confidence I stayed strong and resilient, I made friends, I learned new skills and so much more!”

PENDRAGON FEEDBACK

100%

of young people said the Pendragon Project expedition was a positive experience for them.

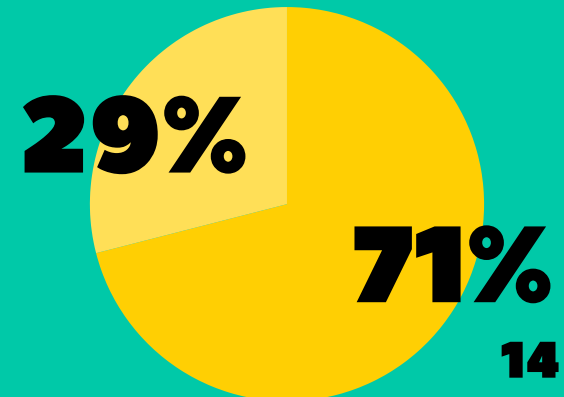
of young people would recommend Pendragon Project to another young person and 100% signed up to our alumni network.

100%

100%

of professionals would recommend Pendragon Project to another youth organisation or service.

71% of young people would definitely do more outdoor adventure activities in future. 29 % said they would consider more outdoor adventure activities depending on what it was. No one said no to doing more outdoor adventure activities in future.



TREKKER FEEDBACK

“It was positive as I have learnt so much and I have built up my social skills a bit more”

A positive experience because I have been through a lot and is nice to get away from it all

“Thank you for such an amazing five days, great people, breath-taking scenery and the instructors were supportive way beyond my expectations. I haven’t laughed and smiled so much in a while my ribs hurt”

“I’ve learned new skills like how to skin and cook pigeon! And it’s helped my team working skills too”

“[It was good] having such nice people around me because where I’m from no one has ever treated everyone sivel [sic]”

Thankyou for all you have done and taught I have had a great time and would look forward to doing something like this again

PARTNER FEEDBACK

"[YP] told me that he really enjoyed the experience, it gave him time away from the stresses of home and it was something positive in his life. He has been confident and articulate in expressing his positive experience and I really hope that in the longer-term it will help boost his confidence and self worth. The reference at the end is a great idea and something he can look back on with pride"

"They were very keen to talk about what they had done, the friends they had met and the skills they had learned. They are very, very keen to do it again as soon as they are able to"

"I have seen increased confidence in them, the young person enjoyed making friendships which they struggle with."

"[YP] had a fantastic time and it was great to see how well they managed without their mobiles! They have developed their skills and independence and would love to go again."

"The referral process was informative and swift and the expedition was perfect for the young person I supported in this process as they are NEET. It has given them new skills and confidence to use gaining future employment."

"It shocked us to know that [YP] was preparing her own food and getting involved with daily living skills. This has clearly given her a lot of confidence and has taught her some valuable life skills. [YP] informed us how much fun she had whilst she was away, and it opened her up to spending time with people her own age that are a positive influence"

ADVENTURE CAMPS

In 2022/23 we partnered with Derbyshire and North Yorkshire local authorities to run two summer adventure camps for 20 of their care-experienced and unaccompanied asylum seeking young people.

The two-day camps provided a safe space to build confidence, and develop teamwork and social skills. It also focused on harnessing the physical and mental wellbeing benefits spending time in nature provides. The programme would encourage the young people to venture outside of their comfort zone, whilst adopting a supportive approach to meet a range of abilities, needs and levels of English

OUTCOMES

- Improved wellbeing
- Increased confidence
- Expanded networks and improved social skills
- Developed teamwork and leadership skills
- Learned practical life skills
- Provided needed respite



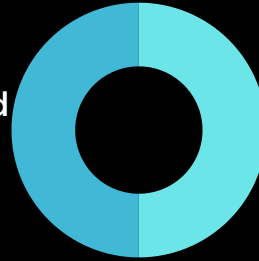
“Pendragon designed a bespoke programme that created a safe space for our young people to explore activities and engage with each other. We were able to trust Pendragon with all aspects of the camp and felt part of a team working with them. Our young people enjoyed it so much they want to do it all again”

Jayne Shooter, Derbyshire Virtual Schools

ADVENTURE CAMPS

We collected some baseline data about the young people attending the camps with consent from our local authority partners.

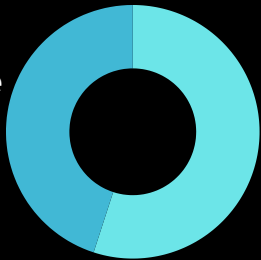
Care Experienced
50%



UASC
50%



White
45%

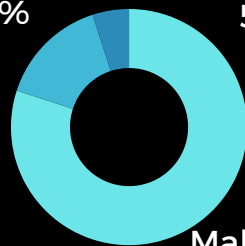


Black and Global Majority
55%

“I made friends and did something that challenged me”
Young Person, North Yorkshire

Female
15%

Trans/Non-Binary
5%



Male
80%

“Just wow! What an amazing experience! First-class activities and instruction from start to finish! Brilliant to see the young people’s confidence grow in such a short time”

Steve Younger, Senior Leaving Care Worker



THE
PENDRAGON
PROJECT

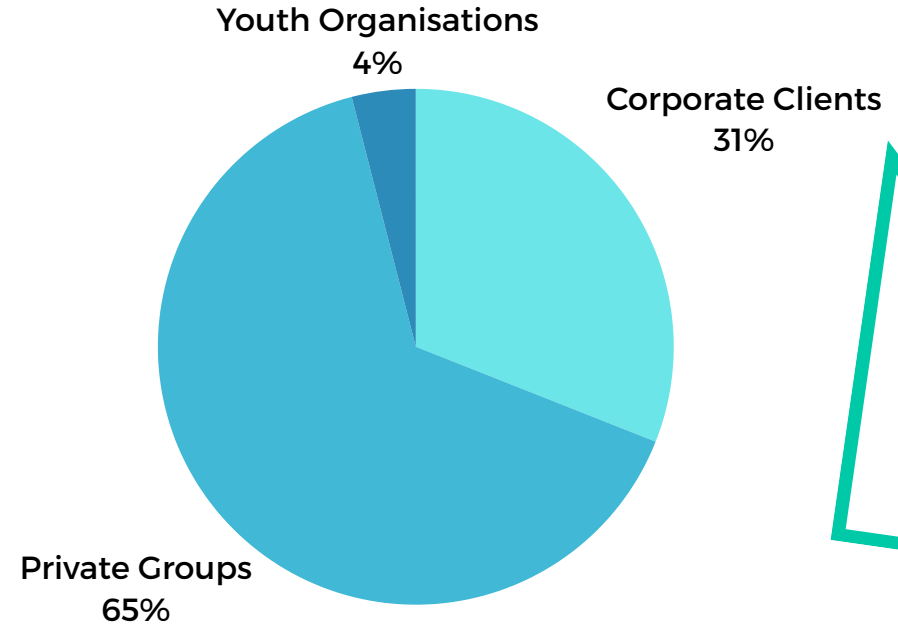
TEAM ADVENTURES

In 2022/23, we delivered 230 teambuilding activities to over 3600 participants.

The majority of our activities were delivered to private groups, with corporate clients as an emerging client group.

Highlights were winning Silver Award for 'Experience of the Year' at the Peak District and Derbyshire Tourism Awards 2023, and receiving the Accelerator Fund grant from UnLTD: recognising the growth potential of our social business model. We also maintained 100% 5-star reviews across Google and TripAdvisor, demonstrating our commitment to client experience.

2024 will see the expansion in our team adventure offer, with a focus on engaging corporate clients and organisations that seek to buy socially and improve team development and wellbeing outcomes for their employees.



Team adventures by client group

“A fantastic teambuilding event and even better to know we were supporting an organisation helping young people. We had a great day, which created a real buzz and fantastic feedback from the team. I would highly recommend”

Jill, Rolls Royce, July 2023

THANKS

A huge thank you to all the individuals and organisations who have taken part in our Team Adventures, you made funding our youth programme possible.

Thank you to the fantastic providers who helped make the Peaks Adventure Treks a success, our funding partners whose support helped us deliver our work in 2022/2023, to our incredible volunteer expedition leaders and those who have donated their time and support pro-bono to help us achieve so much.

Thank you to all the young people that joined us on a trek, camp or team adventure activity. You all showed real commitment, enthusiasm and bravery in stepping outside your comfort-zone to embark on a new adventure - we loved working alongside you.



Adam & Laura
Co-Founders, Pendragon Project

For more information contact enquiries@pendragonproject.org