Case Study  Community Central Hall, Glasgow

Money Works

18-24 year olds have average unsecured debts of £1,460 and are the UK’s fastest growing group of debtors.

Scotland is our latest UK Hub and focuses on young adults. We spoke with a teenager taking part in Money Works, a financial and digital skills programme where young people moving into independent living can confront their money worries.

Miriam, 18

Miriam left school this year and is currently taking part in a Prince’s Trust employability programme where MyBnk provides survival money management sessions. She receives benefits but hopes to find a job to boost her earnings.

“I want to make sure I have enough money to have a comfortable standard of life, but it’s easy to make just one mistake and have it follow you for a long time.

I would normally put off doing things like this and I never used to think about saving money. In the past my budgets have been too optimistic and I haven’t been able to stick to them.

Money Works gave me a better understanding of how to use my money, where it goes if I put it into a bank and the consequences if I was irresponsible with loans.

The course made me realise how valuable it can be sitting down and making a plan of how I can do the things I want to do – I can be more honest with myself and it’s made me feel a lot safer. I’m less terrified about the idea of money and feel more confident that I can make choices that will improve my situation.

I’m definitely going to open a savings account and make sure I have enough put aside for when I really need it.

I liked how Money works wasn’t too serious – it was fun with games and chatting informally about things and it wasn’t as complicated as I thought it would be.

They don’t teach you this at school. It’s not common knowledge. There’s no way of knowing it without anyone teaching you and it’s quite overwhelming to research for yourself”.

Contact info@mybnk.org or 020 3581 9920 to find out more or request a session.