

2c3

Perks

Do

Identify an extra reward for attendance or participation in the activity.

Story

Andrew had been in the care of the local authority and was eligible to receive £30 per week for attending a Health and Social Care course at the local further education college.

Hints & Hazards

‘Rewards and incentives may also be factors that encourage young adults with mental health difficulties to sign up to a course. For some young people these might be formal benefits, such as the opportunity to progress or to gain a formal qualification. But for others they are likely to be less formal, for example, the payment of travel expenses, free lunch and refreshments or the opportunity to have fun by engaging in social activities with other young adults with similar difficulties to them’. (Aylward 2003, p23-4).

This might provide the added incentive at the beginning of the activity, but can mean that the person abandons the activity if the ‘perk’ is withdrawn. If one person receives the perk, but others do not, then this can be divisive.

As the programme of personalisation advances in health and social care, more people obtain personal budgets and spend them in increasingly diverse ways, it will be more common for people to experience a feeling of inequality between themselves and others.