



## Barking & Dagenham Tuition Centre

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To whom it may concern

Re: Bethel Church

We have been working with Bethel Church for the last 3+ years and would like to offer our support for requesting funding for their expansion programme.

I am the Centre Manager for the Tuition Centre and we are a borough provision that provides school for those students aged between 11 and 16 who are permanently excluded or at risk of permanent exclusion from mainstream school. We have a number of students who are involved in gangs or on the periphery of involvement and we have asked workers from Bethel's Cruz project to work with individuals and small groups of students to help them to understand how their behaviours can impact on themselves and others in the community. They also took part in our PRUvention day in March 2014 when we worked along with a number of other providers and the Metropolitan Police to provide a day of workshops around preventing young people from becoming involved in criminal activity.

Our work with Bethel has been extremely helpful for the young people concerned as it has given them an opportunity to talk to others outside the normal school staff and often this allows them to be more honest and open about their life.

As we are working with some of the most vulnerable young people in the borough, and from all areas of the borough, the impact from Bethel has a wider scope than the immediate local community to the church. The opportunities of further intervention will be increased if the expansion goes ahead and therefore can only mean more chances to have a positive effect on the life chances of the young people we work with.

I fully support the expansion and would gladly speak to anyone to encourage funding support.

Please feel free to contact me on the above number or by email.

Regards

Cathy Stygal  
Centre Manager