



## MIDDLETON TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL

We were recently offered the opportunity from Gary Leigh (Catch 22 & Middleton Angling Society) to engage our young people in some environmental work and fishing sessions. Initially we sent a small, select number of Year 7, 8 and 9 boys accompanied by a learning mentor. They spent the afternoon improving the local area and were rewarded with a session of fishing. In their return to school they couldn't wait to tell their peers what a fantastic time they had had.

Ultimately we have had to double the number of sessions booked to accommodate more students and still have a huge number eager to join in. We have reserved a full day of carp fishing as part of our trips day and our Deputy Head will accompany this.

The sessions have had a positive impact on our young people that understand that this is a reward for making a real effort in school. It has been a confidence boost for some of our more vulnerable students and the proverbial "carrot" for our more challenging ones.

We are now looking to extend this partnership to support the delivery of a BTec on fish husbandry and have also provisionally booked some sessions for over the summer holidays which our school-based officer will accompany.

In summary this has been an extremely successful partnership that has greatly benefitted our young people and I hope it will continue into the next academic year.

Adele Hulton

Assistant Head Middleton Technology School