

Khulisa - Gleaning deeper insights into data on young people at risk of exclusion

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Overview of the Data Fellowship

For my data fellowship I was working with Khulisa. This organisation works with children to ensure they have the social skills and emotional support they need. They also work with professionals, parents and people in prison in a trauma informed way. My aim at Khulisa was to help dive into their participant data and see what their participant profile is and who their programmes work best for. This was based on measures of their four key outcomes; wellbeing, resilience, positive emotional regulation and negative emotional regulation.

Data Analysis

I worked with both qualitative and quantitative data, but the main part of my data fellowship was spent working with the quantitative survey responses from Khulisa's Face It programme.

I was using Excel to analyse this data. Using pivot tables and calculation formulae I was able to test what I had learnt in my university tutorials and how this was applicable to the work I was doing for Khulisa.

I then wrote reports and made sure the data visualisation was comprehensible for a variety of audience. I presented my findings back to the team more broadly to share ideas on what this means for the future direction Khulisa should take and participants best suited to the programmes.

Khulisa's Face It programme has made me a better person. It's taught me how to trust others and control myself when I'm angry.



Jack is a typical Face It participant.



Findings

Khulisa really is making a difference to young people. After taking part in their programme, the majority of participants show improved scores in wellbeing, positive emotional regulation and resilience.

- I was able to find trends in survey scores between different demographics such as participants on pupil premium and participants which were not.
- I was able to find differences between baseline (pre programme) scores before and after the pandemic and the same for post-programme scores amongst different demographics.
- Baseline scores and the post-programme scores also highlighted a gender difference in outcomes amongst the programme's participants.

Key Skills Learnt

I learnt a lot about choosing the best data outcomes for specific purposes, for example what should I choose to write about in a report for a specific audience. Khulisa works with many different groups, whether that is others in the charity sector, professional therapists, teachers at school or the children themselves, how you write makes a big difference in how accessible your findings are to these groups. That was a huge learning curve for me as it was very different to writing essays at university. I also had to create a spreadsheet to store and analyse the qualitative data for Khulisa. This was really interesting and I ended up also writing a justification document for what I had done and why and how that will benefit the teams using this data in the future. This was really helpful, especially working remotely, to explain my thoughts and also explain how to navigate the new system to other team members. As well as my data skills I learnt a lot about the professional world and this experience has been invaluable to me and I am extremely grateful to Khulisa.