

LCA Youthreach - Practical Achievement Task by Amanda Gleasure

My aim was to write my own song, record it and perform it when busking. I achieved that aim by attending a song writing workshop and working with Music Generation over a number of weeks. We worked on background music, learning how to write lyrics and record a song. I worked on my song at home and in school. I made changes to my lyrics when I felt the lyrics didn't work. I took a break from song writing when I felt it got too much and I went for walks and I got a hot chocolate and then I tried to write my song again. It helped when my head was clear and I had more thoughts and ideas for my song as being outside helps me with song writing. I'm proud of myself for not giving up and achieving my aim to write my own song.

I also performed my song while busking which was another aim I achieved for my task. I think it went well. Even though I forgot some of the lyrics I kept singing and trying to get over the nerves but I'm glad I did.

I think my task was successful as I learnt a new skill which was how to write a song and I feel more confident about songwriting. I also feel I would be able to write songs in the future as I have more knowledge on the structure of a song and what a chord progression is and how it is made up. I feel like the task was successful too because while out busking I don't feel as anxious as I was at the start. I think the anxious feeling I had at the start doesn't happen anymore because I feel confident in my performance while busking

If I was to look back on my task and do things differently the only thing I would change is that I would've gone busking and promoting my song more. I feel like I didn't busk enough but when I did, I sang my song which was good. I really enjoyed doing my task. I got to work with Chris from Music Generation and he helped me as much as he could and I'm very grateful for all the help and advice I got from him.

I think I've learned that I would also trust myself more and be more confident in expressing my feelings and be more vulnerable in front of people. I will continue to read poetry and download the lyrics of songs I like so that I can keep improving and keep writing



A Thousand Papercuts

By Amanda Gleasure

I guess I'm getting older

Wish I could've told her

By her I mean myself

Looking in the mirror

Things are getting clearer

That I do it to myself

Self-inflicted damage

Carrying all that baggage

Its too heavy for me now

Living in a past life

Cutting like a blunt knife

But the pain stays here somehow

People like me

All over the world

But I don't wanna be

That kind of girl

Like a thousand papercuts

That are salted by my touch

Can't give myself to anyone

Until I know how not to run

From all my Tragedy

In the mirror it's still me

I can't forget my past

But I'd still choose this path