Case study: Health and Social Care Apprentice

Tom Gemmell - Magdalen Close



I have looked after family members in the past and also have friends who have gone into Social Care and enjoyed it, so I applied for an Apprenticeship position.

What have you learnt since starting your Apprenticeship?

A variety of things — I have learnt how to care for someone on a day to day basis, about confidentiality, equality and diversity and caring for adults with a learning disability as I have never worked with learning disabilities before.

How do you feel you have benefited personally from completing an Apprenticeship?

I now appreciate how difficult it is to get around when you have a disability, such as avoiding high kerbs and road works; you are constantly looking to avoid obstacles. I feel more confident with the people I look after, it feels natural to do it now. I have more patience and am calmer.

Would you recommend completing an Apprenticeship?

Yes, I would as you can get a qualification out of it, and your foot in the door in a workplace, and first-hand experience of the job role. You do get time for your course work in your working hours so this was a good thing. Completing an Apprenticeship gives you another string to your bow.

What are your plans for the future?

I have gained a full time job from completing my Apprenticeship and would like to go on to do my Level 3 and Level 4 qualifications and work my way up the ladder.

Magdalen Close received funding from Essex County Council through the Essex Apprentice Wage Subsidy scheme. For further information please contact Tom Bendy on 01245 433075 tom.bendy@essex.gov.uk

Further details can be found at: www.essex.gov.uk/essexapprentice or call 01245 433071

