



Gary Webb

Day Care
Support Worker

Can you give us a brief outline of your work history?

When I was young, I had involvement with social services. I worked closely with a particular social worker with whom I built a trusting relationship and had so much respect for the work she did. However, earning a wage became my priority, so I began working as a plasterer, which was my career for the next 20 years. After some life-changing events, I decided to pursue my interests.

What made you decide this career path?

I had a friend who worked in a supported living facility supporting individuals with dementia. During my regular visits to the facility, I enjoyed chatting with the service users about their life experiences. It was for this reason I began my career in Social Care. I worked in a supported living facility for six years before enrolling in a Day Care Support Worker trainee programme for individuals with mental health and learning disabilities (MHLD).

How did you train for this role/educational route?

I was supported to enhance my qualifications and achieved QCF Level 2 and QCF Level 3 in Health and Social Care, which enabled me to progress into the Day Care Support Worker role.

What qualities are required for your job – personal and professional?

Personal qualities required for this job include being caring, compassionate, patient, a good listener, empathetic, fun, motivated, honest and kind.

What does a typical day involve?

My role as a Day Care Support Worker consists of implementing activities and meeting the assessed needs of our service users, particularly those with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

What do you like best about your job?

My work can be challenging; however, seeing the enjoyment and happiness of service users coming through the door each day, knowing I can make a positive impact on their lives, seeing the benefits of teaching new skills and watching their progress can be extremely rewarding.

What advice would you give anyone thinking of doing your job?

Days can be fun and uplifting, and while there may be challenges, the work is worth it.