



## **Case Study-Care & Support Worker**

I started working in care around five years ago, after seeing a close friend struggle to look after her son with mental health issues. I have never done anything like this before, but after doing the research I realised I could train on the job. I also looked into various personal qualifications which could be done during time off to build my knowledge and experience.

I applied for a job with Voyage, the company had been recommended by a friend and it helped that they managed a couple of centres quite close to my home. The interview was daunting as I had never worked in the industry before, but I was excited and the Voyage staff made me feel completely at ease.

After a few weeks the nerves calmed down and I started to really enjoy my new job. Every day I was learning something new. I work for a centre where I look after George, who I now class as a friend rather than someone I support. George has learning disabilities and although he is very independent, he struggles with confidence and is slightly awkward in social situations. We get out of the centre every day, even if it's just for a walk, and I help him to interact and communicate with neighbours and the local community. I help him to do his shopping, visit family and live as normal a life as possible. I've noticed a huge difference in George's attitude; he is really planning for the future and not letting his learning disabilities interrupt his life anymore.

If you're thinking about becoming a support worker I would definitely recommend working for Voyage. Just go for it, even if you have to completely change career direction because you get so much satisfaction. The training is provided for you to become the very best, and the support I have received from the wider team has been brilliant. Of course there are challenges, but you can see the difference you are making to someone's life so it's worth it.

Linda Hetherton

At Voyage Care, we know it takes great people to build a great company. That's why we are committed to creating a culture that empowers to be your best every day. If you share our passion for person-centred care, we can promise you a career that offers you benefits, recognition and great training and development opportunities.