

# Could this be your Career Pathway?

Find out about Megan's career in social care.



I started working in care when I wasn't sure what direction I wanted my life to go in, but I knew that if there was anything I could do, it was to make a difference to others. I started working as a support worker, supporting two gentlemen who required a little extra support with daily living. This was a massive eye opener for me. Both gentlemen were nonverbal, but as the trust grew, it made my heart warm knowing that even though I didn't initially think much of the role, I was really making a difference to their day. As I gained more experience, I started support people who were more mobile and able to communicate verbally, which just made me even more passionate about what I could do to support them to be as independent as possible and improve their lives. I then moved into a health and safety role within social care due family commitments but still have some involvement with people we support by seeing them at the day centres on visits and my role is still about supporting people to be safe by making sure everything is compliant! It is great to still be recognised by people I have previously supported. I enjoy hearing about their days and what they're up to now, it makes both of us smile. I was able to complete my NVQ Level 2 whilst working as a support worker which really helped my knowledge and I am now completing my degree in special educational needs alongside working, with full support from my manager. I think one of the biggest misconceptions of working in care is that people don't realise how much of a difference you can make to someone's life, by just doing the littlest of things and being understanding.

I would say to someone who's just starting out in care like I was, it just to keep an open mind. We work with people, people change constantly meaning adaptations are always going to be needed. If you get the opportunity to expand your knowledge by doing a qualification – do it.

Knowledge is power, and the more you know, the better equipped you are to remove the barriers that people we support face on a day-to-day basis.

**Health and Safety  
Administrator**

**Support Worker**

**Hospitality and  
Call Centre**