

Learner Case Study

Culture, Media, Sports and the Arts; Leisure, Hospitality and Tourism

Sharon's Story

Sharon came as a very raw recruit to higher education and her feelings of self worth were limited, to quote "I'm just a Mum and a Housewife". As an ex-dinner lady at a local school – Sharon had a life changing moment when questioning what was she going to do with her life and enrolled on a two year foundation degree in E-Technology at Park Lane College. This will lead onto a top up year at Leeds Metropolitan University for the final year of an honours degree.

Despite many personal difficulties and challenges (Sharon is now a single parent to two young children) Sharon has shown outstanding commitment to the foundation degree and has always sought to achieve the highest results possible. Last October, Sharon took up the opportunity to go on a work placement in Estonia. The overwhelming self belief and confidence that this opportunity gave her has been an inspiration to many of her fellow students and work colleagues.

Sharon works for reachfurther.com – who are so impressed with her work ethic and abilities – what started out as a work placement has now turned into a permanent position. The company are absolutely delighted with her and see a bright future ahead for her with them.

In June 2008, Sarah won an award in her category at in the West Yorkshire Adult Work-Based Learner Awards organised by the West Yorkshire Lifelong Learning Network.