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## Case study: Childcare Works Project - Trainee Nursery Assistant Experience

Hannah Culverhouse participated in NDNA Cymru's 16-week Childcare Works programme that was delivered in Pembrokeshire from April to August 2024.

The programme was funded the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, supporting 6 Trainee Nursery Assistants in Pembrokeshire.

The trainees completed 4 weeks of training, followed by 12 weeks on placement in a childcare setting.

Hannah completed her placement at Meithrinfa Do Re Mi Nursery in Haverfordwest and this case study shares her journey and experience of participating in the programme.



Prior to joining the program, I was a stay-at-home mum, my youngest was just about to start full time school. I was actively job searching trying to find a job that would fit around my children's school routine, this opportunity came at a great time it was a perfect fit.

I found out about the NDNA by looking on Indeed and applying. I applied for the programme because while job searching, I was looking for teaching assistant jobs and then found the NDNA Childcare Works project. Working in a nursery wasn't something I had thought about, but I knew I wanted to work with children and this whole experience has been great. I have really enjoyed it the training and the work placement.

Since starting the programme it has given me a lot of confidence and now it's not just Daddy my children see going to work in the morning, we all have a routine which has helped a lot. I have enjoyed the work placement the most it has been a great experience and then being offered a job during the placement, was absolutely fantastic. All of the training has been very beneficial and helped me to secure employment. I have learnt so much about how young children develop and how they learn, how they develop through play, Safeguarding, Paediatric First Aid, Speech & Language and so much more.

During placement I have had the opportunity to work in different rooms from, working with the pre-school children, the toddlers and with the babies. Each room has been a great experience, meeting all the children and learning all of their names. Learning how to communicate with all the children of different ages and learning their likes and dislikes. The programme has set me up for a career in childcare and although I have learnt so much during the 16 weeks of the project, I am learning new skills and developing further every day in the nursery.

I have received great support from NDNA and the Project Coordinator supporting me, who was always just an email or phone call away, any questions we had or if there was anything we needed, she was always there. Throughout the training and lessons the Project Coordinator taught us everything we needed to prepare us for placement. Everyone from NDNA has been extremely supportive, the whole experience has been great.

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### For further information contact

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