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Case study: Childcare Works Project - Trainee Nursery Assistant Experience

Ryan Parry participated in NDNA Cymru's Childcare Works programme that was delivered in Conwy from January to November 2024.

The programme was funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and supported 14 Trainee Nursery Assistants, across two cohorts.

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

Kids Planet Springfield Llandudno provided the 12 week work placement opportunity for Ryan. This case study shares Ryan's journey and experience of participating in the programme.



I am a single father of two boys and have been looking for a career that works around my two boys for some time.

When I saw my work coach, she mentioned the Childcare Works project and suddenly I could see this project working for me and my family.

I was interviewed by the project coordinator, Lesley Williams, and much to my surprise I was offered a place on the project. The 4 weeks training which was delivered online covered so many different modules and I learnt such a lot of tools surrounding caring for children. Some of which I use with my own child.

I found the project to be insightful and educational, the dates and courses within were extremely helpful both for learning the skills I needed and enjoyable due to the group setting, which helped me somewhat overcome social anxiety! Overall, a 10/10 from me, I would definitely recommend this to anyone looking to get a start in Childcare.

What made all of this possible was our fantastic Project leader Lesley who had explained everything clearly and helped every step of the way if you needed, Lesley went above and beyond for myself and the rest of the group and made sure we had everything we needed, she broke the courses up

well taking into consideration each individuals opinions and personal stories. I personally feel the project couldn't have picked a better tutor to help us learn and understand what we need going forward in our childhood careers.

Training went quickly and then it was time to start my placement at Springfields Llandudno. I thoroughly enjoyed my 12 weeks working there and would have loved to have stayed but they had no vacancies. So, Lesley referred me to an educational employment agency called New Directions. I am now working at Ysgol Nant Y Groes and have been assigned to the ALN support team and I love it.

I am secretly still hoping Kids Planet Llandudno will call me and offer me a job there as I got so attached to the children there, but even if this doesn't happen, I am now working in a role I love and in childcare, which was my aim.

All thanks to the Childcare Works Project.

Comment from Kids Planet Springfield Llandudno

NDNA is an amazing project which we have worked alongside side on multiple occasions. We have had the joy of working with both men and women looking to find a career in childcare and are visibly passionate about gaining experience within our setting. Ryan who we recently had the pleasure of working alongside always showed up with a smile on his face and ready for the day ahead. The children really took to Ryan and were always excited to see him on the days in which he attended. Ryan demonstrated good communication skills throughout his time with us, which as part of management is always appreciated. We as a setting find it a real positive that they come with training and have some background knowledge already, making it more of a seamless when starting.

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For further information contact

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