

From Family Learning to Learning Ambassador

For nearly 30 years now I have had a child under the age of sixteen at home. I decided at the beginning never to work full-time and be there for my four children throughout the day. This meant often working evenings and doing jobs I didn't really enjoy but I had to do as this was the only way to supplement our income. Then through my children's school I was recruited onto a Family Learning Course which then gave me more confidence to go on to adult learning at Warrington Collegiate Institute where I achieved good grades.

Two and a half years ago I saw the job advertised for the Family Learning Ambassador position. I just knew it was the right job for me. I had always been somehow connected with learning, either teaching myself or going on courses or teaching my own children, working as a child minder, in a school, pre-school and a nursery. I have also been a slimming teacher and a youth worker, volunteered in schools and for the community. I just enjoy gaining knowledge and I knew I could pass on my enthusiasm for learning to others. I felt the time was right for me and the job description would mean I could still be there for my youngest son after school and I could do a job I would really enjoy. I just hoped they would like me. So I applied for the job and they did.

Since starting the job I can say my confidence has certainly grown and this has been solely because of the patience of the wonderful people I work for, who have brought out skills I didn't know I had. I have attended lots of courses within the Council and with the teams encouragement I took on an IT Learn Direct Course at home which has helped me at work and with my hobby as a Lyrist. But I am still learning every day and with the support of the team I feel I can go on to learn more and give something back to them and the community. I am so glad they had faith in my ability to learn and I find recruiting new learners is the most rewarding job in the world because I know so many more people can begin to feel like I do now!

Warrington Borough Council

