

Work in the UK!

Experience Story

Coming to England was the best idea I ever had

I started my work as a Support Worker for people with learning and physical disabilities in Cambridgeshire in April 2007. Everything went quite quick; I sent my application in the beginning of January, had my interview in mid February and started my work, after all the checks were done, in April.

My workplace is a registered Care Home for three women who have a diagnosis of Learning Disability. It is located in a bungalow ca. 8 miles south of Cambridge in a beautiful little village. The service provided is a 24-hour care and support service. Each service user has an individualized structured list of activities available to them each week. The activities range from swimming, local walks, visit the shops, cinema, pubs, train trips, trips in the house vehicle, pottery, music and aromatherapy.

My responsibilities include involvement in activities of their choice in line with their individual support plans as well as some Personal Care [i.e. helping with the bath in the morning, preparing food, administering medication]. Due to the size of our Care Home we are just a small team with one manager, one deputy manager and four fulltime staff. Due to our shift work patterns

we have always 2 to 3 staff members on shift which ensures that the service users can get care and support of high quality.

The first two weeks I worked in the bungalow was my shadowing period, which means I had the opportunity to watch the other support workers doing their daily work. During this period and also afterwards I was always welcome to ask whatever I wanted to know. Everybody was very welcoming. My company offered me a lot of training, like a "Moving and Handling" course or a course for dealing with people with challenging behavior.

Finding a place to live in Cambridge was quite easy. Basically I found my room on the second day I was here, but I had to wait two weeks before I could move in. Fortunately I could stay the first two weeks with a woman I met when I was in Cambridge for my job interview. Now I am living in a lovely shared house not far away from the city center of Cambridge, together with 4 other people. I and my housemates get on really well; we are often having BBQs in our garden together or are meeting in the pubs.

Coming to England was the best idea I ever had. Not only did I find a job which I really like with very welcoming colleagues and a nice place to live in a wonderful city with great people around, but I have also found love!

So, don't be afraid of driving on the left-hand side, of different accents which are sometimes not easy to understand [I know what I am talking about, I've got a Scottish colleague...] and of starting a new life on this Island!

Support Worker – Adults With Learning Disabilities

Email us today

