

Vocational Training Services Case Study



Lesley Townsend Health and Social Care

Lesley lives in Shoeburyness and is employed at Magnolia House Nursing Home in Leigh-on-Sea.

Lesley said: "When I started in Care I had no qualifications at all, but my aim was to build up my career and move on to be the manager of a care home. I worked my way up from shift leader to a senior role, and while I was doing this I was working towards my qualification at level 2, and then the level 3.

VTS organised my training at no cost and were very supportive. My assessor, Helen, has helped so much – if it wasn't for her, I wouldn't have been able to complete the training – she's supported me through the good and bad times, and I really want to pay tribute to her. I had the full support of my family as well, and with people like that backing you,

you can go all the way. Eventually my manager left and I took over

"Training has opened so many doors – I'm thinking about doing my level 4, which is degree level. I encourage all the people in my home to undertake training, and I say "If I can do it, so can you! You can do anything you want – my advice is just go and do it!"

VTS nominated Lesley for a BBC Essex "Big Skill" award, and it was no surprise to us that she actually went on to become the overall winner of the whole event, winning two awards—the "Skills for Work" award for people who have shown true commitment to developing their skills in the workplace, and the prestigious "Big Skill Excellence Award". She is now considering using her experience and qualifications to go into nursing.

Lesley's assessor, Helen, said: "Obviously, we're all really delighted for Lesley - she's worked really hard for her qualifications at level 2 and 3, and to be the overall winner of the Big Skills Event is a testament to her dedication and commitment. We were all at the Big Skills event to support her, and we're all really proud of her. What has especially impressed us, and the judges, was that Lesley is using her experiences and skills to encourage others to get qualified - she wants her colleagues to gain the qualification as well. I'm positive that she will continue to do well in whatever direction she chooses to go in".



For more information on training with VTS, please contact:

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