

VOCATIONAL TRAINING SERVICES

CASE STUDY

Name: Sarah Hammouta

Course: Lead Adult Care Worker Level 3

VTS Tutor: Jacqui Pile

Sarah works full time as a medication officer dealing with the mental health support for clients, as well as safeguarding requirements. She has overcome many obstacles whilst doing her course with VTS and been truly inspiring.

Sarah says “I’m the mother of two beautiful girls, who I want to be a role model for. A few months into the course, I had to move into a hostel with my daughters, and I chose to take a break in learning... (Jacqui) has been brilliant as at the end of last year I was diagnosed with cervical cancer. Jacqui offered me time off, but I didn’t want that as my diagnosis is not who I am. I am a strong person and I still have my goals; this cancer is not going to stop me! My work family and the VTS team have both been fantastic support. So, no matter how hard things get, I’ve kept my goals, and maintained the fight to achieve them, because this is my future. I have the potential to become a deputy manager in the not-too-distant future so intend to go on to do my level 5 in leadership and management.”

Jacqui, Sarah’s tutor, says “When Sarah first disclosed her diagnosis to me my initial reaction was to offer her time away from her apprenticeship so that she could focus on treatment and recovery, but how wrong was I! Sarah made it absolutely clear that she would be continuing to work full time, only taking breaks when necessary and she was going to complete this course no matter what! Her positive attitude is incredible, and her resilience coupled with the most brilliant sense of humour is truly inspirational. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with Sarah and do the best I can to support her. I am in no doubt whatsoever that she will go on to be a deputy manager and more! I look forward to signing her up for the leadership and management apprenticeship which will be both challenging and rewarding for her, and of course, she will power through it just like everything else.”

