

6 different people, 6 different journeys - 1 outcome. Success Stories at Hillingdon Adult & Community Learning

Sheila – Level 2 Supporting Teaching and Learning Course

Sheila has completed her L2 Supporting Teaching and Learning course. Sheila was a full-time mum, who volunteered in schools and nurseries. After becoming a nanny, she decided she wanted a school-based role working with more children. Although initially nervous about learning again, her tutor and classmates helped her to feel relaxed. The course has given Sheila new skills, knowledge and improved her communication and strategies for working with children.

Sheila now has a job working as a learning support assistant in the school she volunteered at. She said: "I'm loving my job; it is my dream job." Sheila's message to others is "If you want something, just go for it. Everyone is here to progress themselves."

Marcela – English Course

Marcela came to the UK 2 years ago with her family. Originally from Romania she worked as a Pharmacy technician for 20 years. Marcela decided she needed to improve her English so came to study with us in September.

Initially nervous about the course, as she didn't know what to expect, she remained optimistic and has now made many friends from different cultures and learnt a lot. Now, Marcela is working part-time in a pharmacy and the fact that she is learning English is helping to improve her confidence in spoken English and has helped her make some great friends at work.

"I want to improve my language every day and know that this will take time. Before I run, I must walk."

In the future, Marcela would like to qualify as a Pharmacy technician in the UK by going to college and undertaking further study. But first, she knows she wants to take more courses in English at Hillingdon Adult and Community Learning.

Her message to others is "*Never quit your dreams, these are good for you*"

Keiko – Community Interpreting Course

Keiko is currently on the Community Interpreting course, which is due to finish in July this year. Since she started the course, Keiko has been using her new skills in both paid and voluntary interpreting work.

She did paid work in medical sector interpretation which involved interpreting for a pregnant woman. Also, she acquired paid work, via an agency, to interpret for a Japanese food company which was exhibiting at the Excel Centre in London.

Keiko also managed to obtain a paid assignment interpreting for Japanese economics students at Oxford University. Keiko recently volunteered at Hampstead museum in London, where she interpreted for a Japanese photographer during the opening ceremony for an exhibition. Keiko is hoping to win more assignments upon completing her course.

Mateusz, Dawid, Kelly – Level 1 British Sign Language Course

The BSL level 1 course has enabled Mateusz, Dawid and Kelly to develop professionally and greatly enrich their CV's. They befriended several amiable and passionate individuals who helped them throughout the course.

“The trained staff at the centre provided us with fantastic and accessible resources both off- and on-line and never failed to satisfactorily answer our queries. The school recognised the course as a great opportunity to gain more qualification and learn about different means of communication, especially growing in popularity - British Sign Language.”

“The course allowed us to receive a good insight into the Deaf culture and advance our signing skills. Additionally, it has allowed us to make friends with deaf people and better understand how the Deaf community functions.”

“Since the completion of the Level 1 course we have actively used BSL when supporting our pupils, especially those speech impaired, therefore unable to effectively communicate orally. Encouraged by the outcomes of BSL Level 1 we all have pursued Level 2 course to even further elaborate on the skills learnt.”