

Transcript: Lucy's Journey to Employment Success with DurhamEnable

[Video: Shot of sign saying Daisy Rose Coffee House.]

[Caroline] So, Daisy Rose is a family business that was born from a passion for baking.

[Video: Shot of sausage rolls and pies.]

[Caroline] And it happened when my husband was ill, and I did it to keep busy.

[Video: Shot of decoration in the coffee shop.]

[Caroline] It is a community place; it is a family place and I have got the most amazing team. I knew Lucy from when she used to come in with her Mum and her Dad.

[Brian] We went to the open evening at the college, and we got involved with DurhamEnable. Lucy, as I say she is a very social person. She loves going out for coffee in the in the coffee shops.

[Video: Shot of Lucy going into a building, which pans up to reveal a sign saying Daisy Rose Coffee House.]

[Brian] While her Mum was still alive we used to bring her over here quite regularly. She used to love coming, coming here.

When DurhamEnable approached us we said well Lucy would like a coffee shop sort of setting.

[Video: Shot of sign saying Daisy Rose Coffee House.]

[Brian] Ken came down one day, said right, we're going to start at the Daisy Rose.

[Caroline] You know, you think things align in a certain way.

[Video: Shot of the counter at the coffee shop. The till, packets of crisps, mugs and kitchen equipment are visible, the camera pans along the counter to reveal Lucy working.]

[Caroline] It's just kind of meant to be. When she'd come in here it's a different situation there's noise and it's busy and it's, you know, so she would be quite quiet, and you would just get one-word answers and we can't shut her up now.

Today, she just walked her, washed her hands, apron on, came out, went straight out, and started collecting things.

[Video: Shots of Lucy cleaning a table.]

[Caroline] That's using your initiative, you know, skills that she's learning without even realizing that she's learning. And that's the massive thing you know.

She's so comfortable here. She just, like she just fits in, and everyone just cares about her. She chats, she talks, she dances out the back.

[Brian] She's just come on leaps and bounds. More independent.

[Lucy] More comfortable, I talk to people

[Caroline] She is a little doll, we love her. Not just me the entire team have taken her under our wing.

[Video: Shot of Lucy working behind the counter.]

[Lucy] The girls are so nice, I'm pleased.

[Caroline] You know you take leaps of faith in your life, and this is has just been the best thing that I have ever done. I think that everyone has to open their minds and you have to see that every single person, has, is treated as an individual no matter what. And that if you allow every person to have a chance and to have an opportunity then you see your world becomes a better place.

[Video: Shot of Lucy and Ken walking past a row of shops.]

[Caroline] I think if there was a for every neurodiverse young adult who's looking for employment, if they had a Ken fighting their corner, who is as passionate and caring as he is then, you know, you would never have the stigma and the negative, you know, things that you see and hear and DurhamEnable are lucky to have him.

[Lucy] Ken is a lovely guy.

[Caroline] He is one hell of a man, unbelievable.

[Brian] It's been an absolutely loving experience for Lucy I think. I would certainly recommend them. I would, yeah, give them a go, it's been an absolutely wonderful experience with Lucy.

[Lucy] Next, I'll be a dancer.