

How Karen Found Her Confidence | Silver Tree Primary & DurhamEnable Transcript

[Audio: Upbeat music plays during clip.]

[Video Clip: Exterior shots of Silver Tree Primary School, children playing on playground]

[Laura Crane] So, I'm a job coach at DurhamEnable and I help support people with disabilities and health conditions find paid employment through using the Support Employment model.

[Video Clip: Laura smiles to camera, talking head of Laura]

I work on a very one-to-one personalised basis using the Supported Employment Model. So, it's getting to know that person through vocational profiling and being able to match that person to a job based on what I know about them.

[Video Clip: Laura and Karen walk together through the school playground, chatting and smiling while children run around them.]

[Video Clips: Helen smiles to camera, talking head of Helen.]

[Helen Grainger] My name is Helen Grainger and I'm the head teacher at Silver Tree Primary School. DurhamEnable reached out following an advert for a lunchtime supervisor asking whether we'd be interested in somebody coming from DurhamEnable, and that led to us meeting Karen.

[Video Clip: Talking head of Laura]

[Laura Crane] Karen actually applied for a lunchtime supervisor role at Silver Tree and a job coach from DurhamEnable got in contact with Helen to ask about some reasonable adjustments within an interview which Helen was really happy to oblige by, giving questions beforehand to help Karen prepare for the interview.

[Video Clip: Talking head of Karen]

[Karen] I struggled getting out and about. The challenge that I faced was my anxiety and depression. I just didn't think I would get a job at the end of it.

[Video Clip: Talking head of Laura]

[Laura Crane] Helen actually offered Karen a work experience placement, which she did for a few weeks and again was offered a casual contract at that time. Three weeks into that casual contract, she was then offered a permanent contract as a lunchtime supervisor. And ever since she's been really thriving in that role, having support and reasonable adjustments put in place.

[Video Clip: Various shots of Karen at work as a lunch time supervisor, walking through the playground, talking to children, tying a child's shoelaces. Talking head of Karen.]

[Karen] Very proud of myself for getting where I am because I thought that I would never, ever, ever get a job. I was over the moon; I was really pleased. I did what I did in volunteering and then getting a job out of it. So proud of myself.

[Video Clip: Talking head of Laura]

[Laura Crane] I'm so proud of how far Karen has come. You can clearly see a massive difference within herself, how happy she is, how bubbly she is, and it just shows she's so dedicated, she's so committed to the work and it's really fitting around her lifestyle. And the staff have just really connected with her, and she can see herself being here for a very, very long time.

[Video Clip: Various shots of Karen at work as a lunch time supervisor, talking to Laura, and to a fellow member of staff. Talking head of Karen.]

[Karen] I would recommend people get support from DurhamEnable. I would say take all the help you can get and they're really good to help you and very supportive.

[Video Clip: Talking head of Laura]

[Laura Crane] So, I would say to employers that just really embrace someone who might have a disability or health condition, because that doesn't define who they are, and then, they have a lot of potential to them. And DurhamEnable are here to help with those barriers that the employers have, and the job seekers have. We can help with that. As a job coach, my role is to help with that. So, I would say anyone who's working with DurhamEnable then please, please respond to us and really work with us because when you do, it creates some really hard committed workers.

[Video Clip: Karen takes a young girl by the hand and leads her through the playground.]

[Text: DurhamEnable logo. A brighter future for inclusive employment. Base logos, Disability Confident logos. Visit durhamenable.info to find out more.]