

Tailored Support Helps Alastair Thrive in Paid Employment

[Audio: Ambient music plays in the background.]

[Video: Alastair is cleaning the surface of a drinks bar. It then cuts to Alastair in front of the bar with the large selection of drinks behind him.]

[Alastair] My name is Alastair and I'm 20 years old. I do struggle with interviews and stuff, which isn't really my fault. I'm special needs, so it's not really something that comes naturally to me.

[Video: Alastair picks up an empty glass from behind the bar.]

[Alastair] So, with those combined, it's really hard to get a job on your own.

[Video: We see Kirsty smiling at the camera while sitting in a bar booth.]

[Kirsty] So, my name's Kirsty Worne. I'm the operations manager here at Hotel Indigo Durham.

Alastair has joined Hotel Indigo from DurhamEnable and joined our bar team. Now he was actually part of our breakfast interview.

[Video: we see Alastair pouring ice in a metal shaker, then we see him pouring a shot in the same shaker, he now starts shaking the shaker to mix the drink.]

[Kirsty] And he showed a lot of interest in what spirits do we serve, what cocktails do we do. So, we brought him in, we put him on the bar and again he excelled and he excelled, and he excelled.

Again, with the customer feedback, the team feedback from his mentor, he was exceptional.

[Video: Alastair in front of the bar with the selection of drinks behind him.]

[Alastair] The support is incredible, and it's completely tailored to you. So, it's not just like one plan that goes for all, it's like completely customised for you.

[Video: We see Kirsty talking to Alastair while he's behind the bar.]

[Alastair] I'm very happy with what I've achieved.

[Video: we see a customer with an open menu walk up to the bar and point at a drink he wants, we see Alastair nod his head then he opens a fridge and grabs a beer.]

[Alastair] Before this, I was probably with a lot of self-doubt and thinking I'd never get a job. So, all of this has been really helpful for me.

[Video: We then see Alastair pour a foggy orange coloured drink from the shaker into a martini glass, He then give the martini glass to a customer, and we see the customer mouth the words "Thank you."]

[Kirsty] He has become an integral part of the bar team. I tell him all the time, and you see the confidence in him, the smiles, the growth. He's a different boy to when he first started here, I believe, and it really makes me so proud.

[Video: We then see Alastair pour a shot of a clear pink drink in a wine glass then we see him focusing on pouring the drink. He then put the glass on a tray.]

[Kirsty] I would say that anyone that has come in contact with DurhamEnable, any company, any business that have come in contact with DurhamEnable and have any concerns need to really sit down with the coordinators and discuss it. It's not extra work, they are fantastic and actually what you're getting is some fantastic people with so much passion, so much drive. These people, they want to work and I tell you now, put the effort and the time in and it will be worthwhile in the long run.

[Video: Fade into to a white background with the DurhamEnable logo, Connect to Work logo, North East Combined Authority logo, Durham County Council logo, Base logos and Disability Confident logo.]