

O'Connor Pharmacies Ltd.

Khadijah Henry

Changing lives and transforming futures is what we're about here at Prospect Training Services (PTS). Our staff work meticulously to ensure our learner's goals are met; we have several Tutors, Learner/Pastoral Support Workers, Enrichment and Employability Tutors, Work Placement and Careers Coordinators, Safeguarding Leads and trained Mental Health Support Workers who are there to support our young people whenever they need them.

Khadijah Henry has been the latest learner who has reaped the benefits from our services. Khadijah recently came to us all the way from Jamaica in search of education and a new life for herself in England – this is a similar story for lots of our learners. While she was in Jamaica, Khadijah took a Hair and Beauty course, but she knew this wasn't quite what she wanted; what she wanted was to delve into the world of Pharmacy. As soon as she met with our Work Placement and Careers Coordinator, she discussed this need to explore experience in this job industry, and we got searching for potential businesses straightaway.

It wasn't long before we found O'Connor Pharmacies Ltd. in Gloucester, who were more than happy to take Khadijah on for some valuable work experience. Kelly Lee Dispenser, who was there to support her during this time, was there to advise and train Khadijah on the different types of medication and how to carry out everyday tasks; she loved getting to work with patients and navigating what was needed for different people. During this time, Kelly mentioned that Khadijah was "a lovely young lady with good manners and a willingness to learn and adapt to new things" – this is what we love to hear!

At the end of her placement, Khadijah said, "I have learnt a lot of new things in my work experience and learnt about different medicines. The support from Kelly was really appreciated." When asked about her time so far on her programme, which is Work Experience as well as GCSE English and Maths, she emphasised that "it has been good, very positive, and anything I am going through I can get help with. The bursary has helped me towards costs, and the Skills for Work and Skills for Life sessions teach me more about life than I would at school." To further this, when asked if she would recommend a PTS course to other young people, Khadijah said, "Yes, I would. Not only can you take your exams, but you also learn more about life and the world of work. You also get a lot of support."

Well done, Khadijah! We wish you best of luck with the rest of your programme.





Gloucestershire's Machining Centre (GMC)

Dean Mupinda

We understand that not everyone's education journey has been 'as easy as ABC', as such. In many cases, through no fault of their own, many young people experience lengthy spells of being stuck at home, not knowing what to do, where to go or who they should turn to. This is because they lack a healthy support network; this is the reality for many people. Therefore, it is our job to make sure we reach out to these types of people so they aren't threatened with becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training).

We'd like to introduce Dean Mupinda, who was confronted with similar circumstances. Like many of our learners, Dean thought the Work Experience Study Programme was the best way forward – this allows students to undertake a valuable work placement, maths and English qualifications and plenty of other perks.

Soon after he enrolled with us, Dean and the team put their heads together and discussed some options in an industry of his choosing: engineering. Without thinking twice, we turned to Gloucestershire's Machining Centre (GMC), whom we have an established relationship with. GMC are fantastic, as they are always happy to take on our learners if they would like to go down a similar path to Dean. In their words, they "give young people a chance to adapt from school to working life," which works perfectly for both them and us.

Since recently completing his placement with the engineering company, Paul Bland, who is one of the owners of the business, was thrilled to tell us that Dean "showed great attitude and was able to crack on with any task given to him," which is music to our ears at PTS. When we asked what support he had put in place for him, Paul responded, "to allow our learners to explore all aspects of the business, we have a training matrix put in place, which oversees different machined components like aluminium, plastics, steels and so forth." It's so refreshing to hear that Dean was well accommodated for.

When commenting about the programme, Dean even mentioned that "this course is great as it helps you choose your career at a young age. You get to do what you want to do, and you see if it really fits you; if it doesn't, then there is always support in place." Now, Dean is continuing to excel by working towards his GCSEs in maths and English while simultaneously doing his Skills for Life and Skills for Work sessions, which he really enjoys.

Well done, Dean!





Deans Autorepairs

William Davies

It's a new academic year, and with this comes new opportunity for our learners to show off their amazing range of talents. We've had a cascade of young people enter our doors requesting valuable work experience as of late; this will help them 'put their foot in the door' and aid their future job prospects.

How do we ensure that our young people are satisfied with their work experience? Well, this is where our services stand out from the rest: Our Careers and Work Placement Coordinator, Kath Chapman, will provide continual support throughout their time with the employer and schedule what we like to call 'Interim Reviews'; this just makes sure the learner is progressing and they are happy.

We'd like to introduce William Davies. William came to PTS with a lack of awareness of the auto industry. He knew that he wanted to become a mechanic; he just didn't know how to get there. Naturally, Kath sat down with William and explored a range of (auto) garages within travelling distance, and luckily, Deans Autorepairs in Chepstow, Wales, were more than happy to take him on. This was after Kath approached them and explained who we are and how a new recruit could improve their business. A work placement has to benefit them as much as it benefits the learner.

After a successful conversation with the owner of the garage, William began his experience. We think it's fair to say he's gone beyond expectation; he did magnificently. The owner mentioned that "William was very good, a great learner too! He developed in confidence as time progressed and has developed an impressive understanding of the ins and outs of motor vehicles. Great with engines too, may we add" – isn't that great feedback? PTS are so proud that William has comfortably adjusted to this new environment, just like a fish to water!

He is now in the final stages of his work placement after passing his exams in August. William has even gone on to say, "I have learnt a lot, and I am very thankful for the support I have had. I would hugely recommend a Work Experience programme. It helps young people like myself with experience in employment and in doing their grades."

Well done, William! Best of luck with the rest of your programme!



Antonio Bottomley



At Prospect Training Services (PTS), many of our learners require our support with obtaining qualifications, chiefly Functional Skills and GCSEs. These qualifications are essential for a number of reasons, but namely, they provide a foundation for further education and increase employability – the level that many of our learners want to reach. Our job as established training and delivery specialists is to match each person to a tailored Study Programme that meets their needs and requirements. We have a total of five unique programmes that you can explore via our website.

Each programme will allow a young person to fulfil their demand of doing their English and/or maths GCSE/Functional Skills qualification; not only this, but they'll also undertake valuable work experience and engage in Skills for Life and Skills for Work lessons, with continual one-on-one mentoring throughout.

One of the latest learners that has benefited from our services is Antonio Bottomley, and those who have an eagle eye will know that Antonio has featured in our positive case studies before, so naturally we are very happy with his progress. This time, Antonio recently completed some work experience at Home Farm Huntley Estate in Gloucestershire, a picturesque countryside that is rich with life, forestry and amazing country views. Here, he helped with a number of day-to-day tasks, such as coppicing (cutting trees to a stump), strimming, ground maintenance and transporting pieces of wood and various other materials. Antonio proved to be a natural. Justin, an employee of the ground maintenance company, mentioned that he "suited the position perfectly; he's been brilliant and really did a great job."

Antonio was ecstatic with his work experience, as this gave him the reassurance that this was the career path for him. He even went so far as to say that "before I joined PTS, I had no job or any GCSEs. Now, as my time with PTS concludes, I am working with Kath (Careers and Work Placement Coordinator) to find employment, as I have more of an understanding of the industry." When commenting about our services, Antonio also highlighted that "if you are stuck and need a push back up the ladder of help, they are the people to help you. I found them to be very supportive, and they helped me at times when my GCSE exams became too much for me."

We are so proud of how far Antonio has come; he has shown great work ethic throughout his time with us. In addition to his work experience, Antonio has shown amazing perseverance to get through his GCSE exams, and we could ask nothing more from him. We only hope that his results reflect the hard work he has put in and we're confident that they will.

Good luck, Antonio!



Krystal Tanner



It is no secret that attaining valuable experience can give you a healthy advantage when pursuing a career; it certainly makes you 'stand out from the crowd'. When employers look through their list of applicants for a job role, they look out for a number of things: proof of your impact and your ability to adapt. They want to be able to see that you are the best candidate going forward and that you have the skills and knowledge to execute what is expected of you.

At Prospect Training Services (PTS), our job is to get our learners up to this level. We want to give them every opportunity to achieve their ambitions, regardless of their circumstances. That's why, by doing a Work Experience Study Programme, this will allow each of our students to fit the brief required by employers and, additionally, will equip them with skills that'll take them beyond their place of work.

One of our latest learners who has boosted their practical wisdom is Krystal Tanner. Like many of our learners, she had a turbulent start to education; she left school when she was in year nine and couldn't find anywhere that supported her and her needs – until she found us. As soon as we spoke with Krystal, her intentions were as clear as day: she wanted the chance to work in the Hair and Beauty industry. So, when she met with our Careers and Work Placement Coordinator, Kath Chapman, they identified and discussed some potential options. Eventually, they came across Doll House Hair and Beauty who offered Krystal the chance to do some work experience with them.

During her time with the local business in Gloucester, Krystal learnt many things. Learning to cut, shape and style an individual's hair is no straight-forward task, so with the help of the senior hairdressers, she was guided through how to install and style hair extensions, how to bleach hair (a process that involves stripping the colour from the hair, resulting in a lighter colour) and how to dye hair with various products, which she really enjoyed. So much so that Katie Price, the Owner, was keen to highlight that Krystal was "excellent. I was really happy with Krystal. I was really impressed with how she got on. I was always there to help and listen and continually pushed her forward; I really hope we're able to take her on after her programme."

The team at PTS is over the moon that Krystal took to her placement and is able to use this experience as a stepping stone for future opportunities; she's shown that she is extremely comfortable in this environment, and it can only go up from here. Krystal mentioned that "I am more motivated than ever and have a completely different mindset to the one I used to have. The programme is brilliant, as I've now achieved everything I wished for. I would really recommend this path, as you come out of it with qualifications and experience."

As a result of her success in her programme, Krystal has now moved onto taking on her own clients and wants to progress in her own way, with the prospect of setting up her own business in sight for the future. We can't express how proud we are of Krystal, and we only hope that it continues.

Well done, Krystal!



Cerys Screen



Setting up our learners for successful futures is just how we like to do things at Prospect Training Services (PTS). No stone is left unturned as we make every possible effort to ensure that potential is fulfilled; every learner has one, and it's our responsibility to work with them so they can show off what they are capable of. Many individuals enter our education provision with a main goal in sight: to enter the world of work. So, for each young person, our goal is to match them with a Study Programme that corresponds with their needs and requirements.

One of our latest, successful Work Experience Study Programme learners is Cerys Screen. She, too, wanted to get stuck in and explore some employment opportunities, and that's just what we did. Cerys initially started her post-GCSE education journey at college, where she quickly found that it wasn't the place for her. She, like many, wanted to go into work as soon as possible. So, naturally, this brought Cerys to our Careers and Work Placement Coordinator, Kath Chapman, who sat down with her to discuss her options and what best suited her career prospects in line with a customer service aspiration. Luckily, Mercedes-Benz in Cheltenham was eager to take Cerys on to see what she could bring to the workplace.

Beforehand, the process involved PTS and Mercedes-Benz liaising to find a suitable candidate. The team at PTS were then subsequently introduced to the Team Leader, Paul Adams, who was looking for a hardworking, disciplined and enthusiastic individual to join the team – Cerys ticked all these boxes. She accentuated that "they [PTS] made sure I was definitely happy with my placement, and if I wasn't, they would help me right something else."

During her time there, Paul was elated with her work ethic, stating that "it's been only positive; she has been a breath of fresh air and has a definite future in the business. Cerys is extremely motivated, happy and conscientious; always ready with a smile and a chuckle; very eager to learn." Paul even went above and beyond to make sure that support was available for Cerys when necessary, and that she had experienced staff members just a stone's throw away – finding your feet in a new place of work isn't always the easiest.

We are so relieved that she took to her placement so quickly; she seems genuinely happy. For PTS, this is what we strive for. Cerys has even gone as far as to say that "PTS has such a good system and the staff there will help you as much as they can. I would definitely recommend PTS to anyone, like me, who really wants to get into the workplace environment." What's more, Cerys has even gone on to attain a full-time job as a result of her success in her placement with Mercedez-Benz, now taking on the role as Star Expert!

Well done, Cerys. We are SO proud!





Benjamin Gyasi Manu



Here, we are a training provider that works towards one common goal: supporting our learners to achieve, progress and reach their full potential. That's why our motto is "unlock your potential, shape your future." When enrolled with us, our learners will be immersed in high-quality, innovative, accessible education in a friendly culture of mutual respect; diversity and inclusivity are at the top of our priority list. At Prospect Training Services (PTS), many will be guided through a handful of sessions to ensure they are confident with the environment inside and outside our learning centre; for most, the experiences they encounter with us are completely new.

Our effective Skills for Work and Skills for Life lessons mean that each individual will have the opportunity to learn about a variety of things, such as body image, body confidence and self-esteem, staying safe online, British Values, mock interviews and behaviours within the workplace. This is one of the many perks of a Study Programme. Enrolled in a Work Experience Study Programme, currently, is Benjamin Gyasi Manu.

After expressing great dissatisfaction with being at home day-to-day, as he was fairly new to life in England, Benjamin eventually decided to get in contact with the team at Mill Place. Once we sat down with him, like a flash of lightning, we knew that this programme was the best option going forward; this option not only gives Benjamin the chance to complete valuable work experience, but he's also able to do his English and maths qualifications, Skills for Work, Skills for Life and lots of other exploits too (which are all available to preview via our Course Guide). Once Benjamin was happy, we later discussed where he would like to do his work placement. It wasn't long before he opted for Pebbles Nursey in Gloucester, as this closely aligned with his future career goals.

During his time at the nursey, Benjamin has been doing considerably well. Undertaking admin tasks like printing, laminating, filling out forms and arranging paperwork, no two days have been the same. In fact, his employer has even gone so far as to say that "Benjamin has been really helpful and has been great at following instructions. He's a pleasure to have at the nursey, as his time-keeping skills are excellent; he's very punctual." Pebbles Nursery also mentioned that "the support from PTS has been brilliant. We have good communication with the Work Placement Coordinator (Kath Chapman), who provides regular phone call checks to ensure Benjamin's attendance."

The team at PTS is overjoyed that Benjamin has settled so easily into the world of work; his progress has been outstanding. Benjamin has recently commented that the support from us has been "great, especially from the tutors and Jane [Trehearne]. It is because of their overwhelming support that I know what I'll do next to achieve my goal." "I've really enjoyed the Skills for Work lessons, as it has given me an idea of what to expect in employment and future placements." We're so glad Benjamin has felt that he has benefited from our services; he's been a pleasure to have with us, and we wish him the best going forward.

Well done, Benjamin!



Joshua Taljaard



At Prospect Training Services (PTS), we have a wide range of clients that are looking for learners to take under their wing to provide them with experience that is crucial for future employment opportunities. This includes the IT Schools in Africa (ITSA), a computer recycling charity that provides digital education to people both in Africa and England. They have worked with PTS in the past with work placements and have always been impressed with our help. Recently, ITSA took on board one of our learners, Joshua Taljaard, for some work experience; here is how he got on.

Joshua recently moved to England from South Africa but was unable to gain access to education. Struggling, he turned to PTS for support and, after talking to our team, decided that a Study Programme was right for him. This allows him to gain valuable work experience which he is currently undergoing at ITSA. During his placement, Joshua has been working on repairing laptops, PCs and installations. When he first started, he was given an induction to the role, which included what was expected of him and the team he'd be working with. With the help of his manager and colleagues, he has established new skills that he has been keen to try out outside of his placement. "From being on work experience with ITSA I have learnt so much and now feel comfortable with the skills I have developed with working on laptops and PCs, I'm able to use the knowledge that I have learnt to put into practice with my own laptop at home. My employer has been so helpful with everything. If I encounter a problem, they have been able to support me through it. I get along really well with everyone there."

Joshua's manager, Chris Rolfe, is extremely impressed with his work ethic and believes he fits into the team really well. "Josh has been an excellent help to us," he commented. "He has a very good attitude to his work and balances asking questions with using his own initiative. He has shown very pleasing development and rarely makes the same mistake twice."

As Joshua is continuing his placement, he is working to gain additional qualifications to boost his chances of finding a job after his programme. He already has completed his Ascentis Level 1 Progression Award and is now taking on many sessions including GCSEs in maths and English, Skills for Work and Skills for Life. "With maths and English, I feel a lot more comfortable with learning and enjoy all my lessons. I feel the support at PTS is perfect, the course is right for me and I feel it is better than being in a private or public school."

Joshua has really enjoyed his programme so far and would recommend it to anyone who needs help with their education. "I've found it really helpful; I have learnt so much and everyone is very supportive. There is always someone to talk to if I need to. It is good for finding different routes into education and everyone is really supportive."

We wish Joshua the best of luck with the rest of his programme.



Antonio Bottomley



At Prospect Training Services (PTS), we understand that finding a job can be tough, which is why we have a wide range of support available to get people into employment. Our Study Programmes are designed to help our learners not only find employment, but a career they love and are proud of. This has been the case for Antonio Bottomley, who is currently on a Study Programme with us and because of this, has found the career path for him.

Before Antonio came to PTS, he was desperately trying to find employment, but to no avail. Thus, to help with his search, he came to us to seek support with finding a career that aligned with his interests. After speaking to the team at PTS, he was placed on a Study Programme, which included sessions in English and maths and a work placement in a field of his choice – this was ideal for not only his personal development but also for future career options.

As part of his programme, Antonio spoke to Kath Chapman, our Careers and Work Placement Co-ordinator, about where he would like to work and where his skills could be best utilised. After discussing his options for job placements, she recommended Mayhill Woodlands. His placement allowed him to work in the field of forestry which included planting, managing and caring for forests. Thereafter, Antonio stated that he really enjoys working there and the staff are really lovely to work with, accentuating that "they have boosted my confidence. We both have the same mindset and the person I work with is very easy to get on with." He enjoys his placement so much that he even wants to go into forestry as a career! "With the work placement, it has made me decide that it is a career that I want to pursue."

As a result, Antonio feels grateful for the support he's received from PTS and that we really helped him with his job search. "If you don't know what you want to do they work with you to find this out."

We wish Antonio all the best with the rest of his programme and work placement.





Fairview Gardeners



Ameila Andrews

If you're looking for support finding work or gaining valuable qualifications, then Prospect Training Services (PTS) can help. Our promise is to give you a welcoming and nurturing environment, both at our centres and at any of your work placements. This was the case for Amelia Andrews, who, thanks to us, has successfully completed her work experience at Fairview Gardeners.

Before her placement, Amelia wanted help looking for work, as she was new to the area and not in education. Instead, she decided to turn to PTS for support. After talking with our specialist tutors, she emphasised that she wanted to gain some work experience with plants and flowers. After speaking with our Careers and Work Placement Co-Ordinator, Kath Chapman, Amelia thought a work placement at Fairview Gardeners was perfect.

Fairview Gardeners were more than happy to take on Amelia, who was placed under the supervision of Glen, one of the owners of the centre. Judging by the feedback, Amelia has been outstanding during her time there, and projecting PTS in the best light possible. Glen even went out of his way to express how her hard work and attitude haven't gone unnoticed, stressing that "Amelia has grown throughout her placement; she has turned out to be a great colleague to the rest of our staff and the customers who come in on a daily basis."

Furthermore, she has mentioned that the support from PTS has been exceptional. "It's been really good. I have felt very welcome since joining; a Study Programme is perfect for those wanting to find a job that they want while doing their qualifications at the same time."

Amelia is looking to continue her work at Fairview Gardeners, and we wish her all the best of luck with this.

Well done, Amelia. We are so proud of you!



L'una Designs



Tristen Taljaard

It's not every day that we find ourselves writing not one case study for one of our learners but, in fact, two of them! Not too long ago, our learner, Tristen Taljaard, came to us to seek the qualifications to help start his new life in the UK. To gain some experience, Tristen was offered a week's work experience at Howdens Builder's Academy, doing kitchen fitting.

Fast-forward to now, and Tristen has made some astonishing progress in his career development at PTS. This time, whilst still undertaking his English and maths GCSEs, Tristen has been involved in a placement at L'una Designs in their Kitchen Installations department.

L'una Designs, who are based in Cheltenham, reached out to us to give one of our hard-working learners a chance to prove themselves in the working industry. Their objective is to offer young people opportunities that may not always be available to them. During Tristen's time there, he has proven to take on activities that involve an overview of the company and its services, witnessing what the company does for their clients, staff, and career progression, and then, finally, training on the job and administering safety procedures and social skills. In response to this, L'una Designs has said that "Tristen has settled in very well with the team; he is always punctual and polite within the organisation and with our customers. He also has a huge will to learn and develop".

We are so happy to hear that Tristen has done so well on his placement; he has even gone on to say, that "I believe I have grown in confidence, and it has significantly increased. I have learned how to communicate effectively with my employers and fellow employees. Also, I have found it really helpful to have different experiences within this industry". Furthermore, in response to the service PTS has provided so far, Tristen has said that "PTS opens the door to so many opportunities. They can help someone find what they want to do even if they are unsure on how to get there".

It doesn't stop there, either! During his spare time, Tristen has recently started working part-time at Flight Club, in Cheltenham, as a bartender! Wow.

As a team, PTS is so proud of Tristen's progress since joining us, we hope he keeps it up and achieves his dream on being an architect – we believe in you!



Bells Hotel and Country Club



Callum Morton

At Prospect Training Services (PTS), we specialise in offering individualised support to all of our young people, as well as assisting them with their needs, requirements, and career development. We offer a range of pathways that can help the person in question, presenting them with an array of avenues such as tailor-made work experience, study programmes, apprenticeships, and traineeships. Callum Morton, who came to PTS in search of something to help further his career, is yet another excellent example of a learner thriving outside of the classroom while simultaneously creating a great impression on one of our partners, Bells Hotel and Country Club.

After deciding that college was not in his best interests, Callum sat with our Learner Support Supervisor, Jane Trehearne, and both established that a Study Programme with a work placement was perfect. Based in the Forest of Dean, the Bells Hotel and Country Club is perfect for a remote getaway, offering accommodation, an on-site restaurant, and a range of luxurious amenities. Callum embarked on jobs like prepping the food in the kitchen to aid the chefs and occasionally helping the cleaning staff with any jobs they had available for him. In response to Callum's efforts, the managers and staff on his shifts were keen to highlight that he was "polite, well presented, friendly, and keen to learn. He's always arriving on time and working well with the rest of the team".

As Callum is nearing the end of his work placement, he has been really happy with the support he has received from PTS thus far. He went so far as to say that "I had no direction in my career; I didn't know what to do. Thankfully, PTS spoke with me and helped me get back on the right track". In addition, he claimed that "the programme is simple and rewarding; the support is fantastic".

We have noticed a colossal difference in Callum's attitude towards life and learning capabilities. The team at PTS are really proud of Callum and the exceptional work he is doing at the Bells Hotel and Country Club. We hope that it continues and that he is able to attribute his skills learnt in this work placement to another job prospect in the future.



St Oswald's Village



Hollie James

Here at Prospect Training Services (PTS), we always go the extra mile for our young learners who are keen on developing their careers. Over the years, PTS has built a huge network of around 540 employers in Gloucestershire, and we have a team of officers who work with employers every day to support young people into placement, further progression, employment or apprenticeships.

After deciding college was not for her, Hollie James came to PTS as she sought to acquire some experience in the Health and Social Care sector. With this being a new endeavour for Hollie, she needed some extra support to help find her a valuable work placement. Having sat with one of our officers, PTS managed to find the perfect opportunity for Hollie to start her career – a placement at St. Oswald's Village.

During her time at this care facility, Hollie took on tasks such as shadowing skilled staff members, supporting the workforce by continually offering her assistance when feasible, and working with the care coordinator to seek out management duties. In response to this, the team at St. Oswald's Village have been impressed with Hollie's efforts and progress over the course of the placement. They went on to say that "Hollie got on very well at St Oswald's – positive feedback all-around. She's a lovely girl and proved to be very helpful to us".

Having completed her work placement, Hollie is past her days of being anxious and worried, as she has commended PTS saying that "I have enjoyed being at PTS and the work placement – it has helped me with my confidence". With Hollie attaining such a knack for Health and Social Care, she revealed in the days that followed that she was keen on returning to St. Oswald's Village. This time, speaking with the care manager to seek any volunteering positions.

We are deeply proud of Hollie and the progress she has not only made in her desired career path but also in the faith she has shown in herself since starting the work placement programme with us at PTS. We wish Hollie the best of luck for the future!





Stroud Road Services



Esther Okuneye

Our mission, at Prospect Training Services (PTS), is to provide as many students as possible with enough qualifications and experience to take them to the next step in their careers. If they have a dream, we will do everything in our power to ensure that they leave PTS with the capability to pursue what they would like to do. After all, our youth programme tagline is: "unlock your potential, shape your future". With the help of our team, not only do we offer GCSEs in maths and English, but we also work with employers on a daily basis to support young people into placement, further progression, employment or apprenticeships.

Esther Okuneye, who left high school in Nigeria, came to England determined to pursue a career in pharmacy. Thus, she arrived at PTS wanting to be able to gain some beneficial experience in the Health and Social care sector, alongside attaining her GSCEs. So, we got to work and managed to find Esther a work placement at Stroud Road Pharmacy, with the addition of weekly sessions in employability and personal development at PTS.

Over the course of Esther's time at the pharmacy, she acquired a copious number of skills. With the supportive guidance of the supervisor Kelly Lee, she was able to learn about medicine, antibiotics and prescriptions – and, later on, being able to locate where each medicine was stored; also, Esther stood behind the counter and communicated with patients, helping find medication, whilst concurrently looking up the details of certain customers. It is because of this work ethic that Kelly went on to say that "Esther was an incredibly useful student at the pharmacy, she is a bright person and represented PTS really well".

As her time with Stroud Road Pharmacy came to an end, Esther was really grateful for the chance, provided by both PTS and the pharmacy, to obtain hands-on experience in her chosen industry. She went on to say that "before I didn't really have any routes into getting my dream career, but PTS helped me find a route to help me begin the journey. If I had not been given a work placement, I would not have had the opportunity to get a work experience at such a brilliant place".

If that wasn't enough, Esther prospered further by being offered a volunteering job one day-a-week at the pharmacy, on top of paid work on the weekends!

We are really proud of Esther's progress in her maths and English GCSEs, and the evident impression she made on not just PTS, but her colleagues at Stroud Road Pharmacy. She was simply a delight to have, and we hope we have many people like Esther come to us further down the line.

Good luck, Esther!



Howdens Builder's Academy



Ibrahim Drame and Neil Suttle

We're always proud of our learners' and enjoy celebrating achievements. We recently received some amazing feedback from one of our Study Programme learners, Ibrahim Drame, who just completed a week of work experience at Howden's Building Academy in Cheltenham.

Before PTS, he was working shifts at Burger King and Kaspas, but wanted to work as a bricklayer. When he came to PTS, he decided he wanted to participate in a Study Programme, which would allow him to gain the qualifications he needed.

As part of this programme, Ibrahim attended a week-long course at Howdens Builder's Academy with four other learners under the supervision of Howdens Builder's Academy's, Neil Suttle. The beginning of the week consisted of an induction that explained the academy's rules and expectations. Ibrahim, alongside the other learners, was taught how to install parts of a kitchen and use tools safely. Ibrahim used the skills he learnt during the week to cut worktops and panels. He showed a positive behaviour throughout his work placement and extremely enjoyed working at Howdens.

Ibrahim's programme also consists of Employment and Personal and Social Development sessions Level 2 in English and maths. He also really enjoys these, particularly his English lessons. "I enjoy the interactive tasks and activities rather than just writing," he commented. "The support from staff has helped a lot."

So far, Ibrahim has enjoyed his time at PTS. He is continuing his lessons whilst working with Kath Chapman, the Work Placement and Careers Coordinator at PTS, to find additional work experience. "It is amazing," Ibrahim commented. He said he would recommend PTS to others as it "might point them in the direction of what they want to do if they are unsure."

Well done Ibrahim in your placement at Howdens Builder's Academy! Good luck with the rest of your Study Programme!



Sujan Rai



Sujan came from Nepal to the UK on the 20th of October 2021 to find a better education, particularly a qualification in Health and Social Care and a chance to improve his English and maths.

He joined Prospect Training Services (PTS) and took on a Level 2 qualification in Health and Social Care, which included working towards his Level 2 in Functional Skills English, Entry Level 3 Functional Skills in maths, and a work placement at St Oswald's. During his placement, Sujan said that his employer was lovely. He commented that "it was a good working environment; they were friendly and always tried to help." He also took on Personal Social Development courses and Employability courses. Throughout the programme, he felt he was allowed to progress and gain confidence and wisdom.

Sujan felt that his tutors were extremely helpful towards him. "They explained everything and had a lot of knowledge. There were excellent systems at PTS, and the managing system was really good. PTS sorted out everything and tried to help in every way. Maxine was very helpful and had lots of different knowledge of other things. Debbie always tried to give information and helped in every possible way."

Sujan is now working at Greggs in Cheltenham as a Team Leader and is enjoying his employment there. He is hoping to go to Gloucester College to study his Level 3 in Health and Social Care.

Sujan really enjoyed his time at PTS. He said that "it is a nice place to study, everyone is friendly, and no one discriminates. I am really happy to get an opportunity to be a part of PTS. I have learned different things about the course, and I have also learned about the other things which will help me in my future job. I feel like I had chosen a good path to achieve my goals."



