

smart people:
think minerva



Lauren Sharpe

Minerva People worked with Lauren and helped her to gain qualifications, increase her confidence and obtain employment in an area she was very interested in.

The Challenge:

Lauren had previously gained an SVQ in Business and Administration but due to a period of illness had not worked for some time and lost confidence. She was keen to gain new employment so Job Centre Plus referred her to Minerva to be considered for the Training for Work programme.

The Solution:

Lauren met with Minerva staff and explained her situation. It was evident that she was very able but had lost a great deal of confidence. We suggested that she enter the Training for Work programme under Route C which allowed her to study for a Business IT Diploma and obtain CV advice, interview techniques and job searching assistance. The Diploma was made up of 7 different qualifications which would give Lauren excellent up to date computer skills which would greatly contribute to her chances of gaining employment.

The course lasted 12 weeks and helped Lauren to increase her skills, knowledge and confidence to seek administrative work. Lauren impressed Minerva staff with her hard work and dedication and ultimately she gained a distinction in her Diploma.

The Results:

A few weeks after leaving the programme Lauren had not managed to gain employment so Minerva suggested she consider voluntary work to gain some extra experience. Lauren was very happy with this and so Minerva approached the local Chamber of Commerce. They interviewed Lauren and were so impressed with her they offered her a job for 6 months under the 'Future Jobs Fund' initiative. This meant that Lauren would gain experience in Events Management and Administration and be paid at the same time! Lauren is thoroughly enjoying the experience and we are hopeful that the job may become permanent at the end of the 6 months.

"The Diploma has been a massive success!
I am so much more confident in every aspect of life now. Everyone at Minerva has been so helpful and kind. I leave Minerva with a great sense of excitement for the future"

LAUREN SHARPE

"Lauren has been extremely enthusiastic and keen to learn new skills. Even though she has only been with us a short time she has proved herself to be a great asset!"

**DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

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