

Kelly's Work Experience

Kelly was a fifth year student at Aith Junior High School who was referred to Moving On in 2023 through the Developing the Young Workforce program. Kelly was introduced with her support worker and began exploring work experience options. Kelly had an immense interest in history and Shetland Museum and Archives was identified as a suitable placement. This opportunity allowed Kelly to build her employability skills and confidence out with a school setting.

Shetland Museum and Archives

The team at Shetland Museum and Archives were extremely supportive of Kelly's placement. Kelly recognised that front of house roles might make her anxious but was keen to explore other areas of work within the Museum. Shetland Museum and Archives accommodated Kelly's wishes and provided work experience within the Museum, the store, archives and exhibition support. Kelly worked alongside different members of staff within the organisation, developing strong relationships and building on her social and communication skills. The Moving On support worker initially supported Kelly 1-to-1 during her placements but it was recognised that the support from Moving On could be reduced whilst Kelly was undertaking her placement as she was becoming more confident within the role.

Achievements from the work placement

- Worked on building independence skills
- Building personal confidence and belief in own abilities
- Building professional relationships
- Developed soft employability skills and skill advancement within the work place
- To get used to being in more public and social settings
- Providing a supporting work experience placement whilst exploring the world of work

Testimonials

Kelly: *"The museum staff have been really kind and welcoming. They gave me opportunities to learn about different parts that make up the Museum... After building good working relationships with the staff members, I feel completely safe and comfortable to learn and ask questions on my work experience. They've made it really enjoyable and I look forward to it every week as it's so lovely. I always learn something new each time I go."*

Kelly's Mother: *"The service has been amazing for Kelly and her independence... For someone with autism new things and people can be so scary and daunting... this gentle and more person centred approach to work has given us all hope that one day she may manage a little job actually doing something she loves."*

Museum staff member, Jordan Clark: *"Kelly has shown great enthusiasm during her time working with us, taking on new challenges and turning them into strengths... Just like her character, she has a very bright future ahead of her."*

Kelly's teacher: *"As time has gone on Kelly has progressed from being quiet and unsure of herself into a much more confident and outgoing person who is happy to chat to museum staff, ask questions and has ended up building good relationships with staff."*