



PROGRESSION THROUGH EDUCATION AND CARE

As a student, Tom has concluded his time at Expansive Learning; during his time here, he was able to progress into his least year as a Supported Intern. As a Supported Intern, Tom worked towards the four key areas Preparing for Adulthood; Health, Community Inclusion, Independent Living, yet his main focus being employability. Tom has also gained the substantial qualifications, in English and Math (which is his extremely proud of), and experienced hands-on learning at his placement.

Tom worked as an intern at Premier Sport - an organisation that delivers sports programme across England - within a local primary. In his work, Tom held the duties of; helping to run the breakfast and after school clubs, setting up equipment, running the warm up sessions and planning and ran twenty-minute lesson. Tom is very passionate in this area of work and has excelled in his placement and was extremely successful, therefore he strived within his Supported Internship and with the help from Expansive Learning, in the future wishes to carry on with this line of work. During a 'Funky Careers Day' at Expansive Learning the centre was visited by a primary school, Tom lead the students that visited successfully and brought what he had learned from his placement and applied it in this area.

As well as Tom's Supported Internship, outside of college he plays for the local football team once a week and works as the 'statistics man' at Atherton Colls. It's Tom's passion of football and sports that allows him much success in the area as well as Expansive Learning working with Tom, so he could gain the knowledge to apply his passion so well.

Due to Tom's journey at Expansive Learning and the support of his Training Development Officers, he has flourished as a student undertaking a Supported Internship. Tom is hoping to continue his work in teaching sports in primary schools and in the more immediate future is planning on attending Wigan Athletic to study a course there. Indeed, Tom had immense passion for his field of work and is motivated by his love of the job and the team at Expansive Learning have no doubt that he will be successful and prosperous in his future.





PROGRESSION THROUGH EDUCATION AND CARE

As a student, Tom is working towards his Preparation for Adulthood (PFA) qualification and in this has achieved above and beyond expectations in his programme with Expanse Learning. Throughout his time on this course Tom has studied Daily Living, Community Action, Cooking Skills and Work Skills, all of which work towards Tom's independent living.

Tom came to Expanse Learning a year ago, a reserved and quiet young man; yet during his time on PFA, extracurricular activities and devotions he has become a confident person, who anticipates new opportunities. Therefore, his time at Expanse Learning has been extremely positive as Tom has undergone a significant journey of growth as he has become more confident.

Alongside of his studies, Tom is also: a student ambassador, Tour Guide, Personal Mentor for other students, and a 'Buddy' at Expanse Learning. Confidence and character have grown significantly from these responsibilities, for instance when Local Authority was being inspected by Ofsted, Tom – of his own accord – guided two HMI's around the centre unsupported in a professional and formal manner. In addition, Tom felt he had the confidence to help other students with their studies, a task he enjoys doing as he, himself, can learn as he teaches others. In addition to spending four days a week in college, Tom has a part-time, paid job on weekends, where a private company employs him. His role is a Litter picker; he uses the skills he acquired at Expanse Learning to carry out this job and has found success and passion in the field via his own ambition and initiative.

At the end of this academic year Tom will finish his first year at Expanse Learning and will go on to our Work Skills programme where we (and Tom) are certain he will prosper. Amidst Tom's aspiration for himself and college, he also has plans on starting a Student Council, which he would like to run, and wishes to continue to use, and develop his own initiative in the future. Above all, Tom is excited for his Supported Internship nearing the end of his time at Expanse Learning. It is clear from Tom's plans for the future that his time on Preparation for Adulthood has been a success, and the outcome has exceeded all expectations.





PROGRESSION THROUGH EDUCATION AND CARE

Nicole, as a student of Expanse Learning, is a part of our Vocational Subjects Creative and Digital Media Studies, she initially took part in taught sessions to allow her time to enhance and develop her skills and understanding, she then progressed onto more challenging projects. This subject allows students to, Film local events, create Social Media Shorts, experience Events Photography and create documentary Short Films with the support of Expanse Learning industry expert tutors.

Through her time at Expanse Learning Nicole has gained enough media knowledge and confidence that she creates and edits a monthly newsletter for Expanse Learning, this involves using software and hardware from our Creative Digital Media suite and socialising to get information from others at Expanse Learning.

Nicole – and the team at Expanse Learning- are extremely proud of the work on her newsletter and has shown her progress through her time at Expanse Learning, she is constantly improving and developing her skills via working on her Newsletter. It's clear that in the future Nicole has the ambition and knowledge to advance in her media education.

Although, in the near future Nicole is excited to come back to Expanse Learning in September and continue her Newsletter and learn more about Creative Digital Media and enhancing her creative outlets. Along with this Nicole will continue to gain academic qualifications as she has already gained E3 Work skills, E3 PSD, Pearson BTEC Level 1 Award in Creative Media Production and completed her E3 Maths and E2 English.





PROGRESSION THROUGH EDUCATION AND CARE

Lewis, as a student of Expansive Learning, is a part of our Vocational Subject Creative and Digital Media Studies, he initially took part in taught sessions to allow him time to enhance and develop his skills and understanding, he then progressed onto more challenging projects. This subject allows students to Film local events, create Social Media Shorts, experience Events Photography and create documentary Short Films with the support of Expansive Learning industry expert tutors.

Lewis is a student ambassador at Expansive Learning and thrives in this role. Outside of college he enjoys fishing and even produces reviews for fishing companies, which he has gained knowledge on how to do due to his study programme at Expansive Learning.

In the near future, Lewis would like to progress in college and go onto our work placement programme which is aimed at those who have had very little experience of work or employment or those who have progressed from the Work skills programme with an intention to move onto a supported internship. We're sure Lewis will progress in this programme and will have a successful future.





PROGRESSION THROUGH EDUCATION AND CARE

Keiron came across as reserved young man when he first came to study at Expanse Learning, yet during his time on our Supported Internship programme he has grown in a confident gentleman, whom has a humours edge and an individual style.

With the Supported Internship programme in which Keiron works towards the four key areas of Preparing for Adulthood; Health, Community Inclusion, Independent Living, yet his main focus being employability. With is in mind, Keiron has been an intern at Boots – a pharmaceutical chain- in which he has been successful, with the staff hailing his work ethic, politeness and passion for the company.

Keiron is a skilful individual and the staff at Expanse Learning are certain that he will have success in the future through the guidance he has had at Expanse Learning and though his family support. He will continue his volunteering at Boots and is determined to gain paid employment in the future.





PROGRESSION THROUGH EDUCATION AND CARE

During her time at Expanse Learning, Katie, has gained much independence due to her experiences as part of the Supported Internship programme, within this programme she has studied the four key areas Preparing for Adulthood; Health, Community Inclusion, Independent Living, yet her main focus has been employability.

Katie is a driven and motivated young woman that, with the help of her Training Development Officers, has progressed so that she can gain as much independence as possible. Katie has been interviewed for full time paid employment at a phone company – their feedback was positive, suggesting she would be well catered to a customer facing position. She has also applied to Wigan Youth Zone via email – which she has never used before- for volunteering, she also now lives independently from her family.

At her time in college she has been determined to do as much work as possible and even took work home in the evening so that she could further herself and be prepared for her Supported Internship and any future employment.

In the future Katie would indeed like to continue her further education at Bolton Community College and has constant determination to become independent within society. Due to Katie being a proactive in working towards these goals, the staff at Expanse Learning is certain she will gain paid employment and further independence.





PROGRESSION THROUGH EDUCATION AND CARE

As a student, Jack has concluded his time at Expansive Learning; during his time here, he was able to progress onto a Supported Internship. Jack, as a Supported Intern- worked towards the four key areas Preparing for Adulthood; Health, Community Inclusion, Independent Living, yet his main focus being employability. Jack has also gained the substantial qualifications, in English and Math, and experienced hands-on learning at his placement.

Jack takes pride in all his hobbies such as playing guitar and football, therefore, when he was able to work as an intern at Premier Sport – an organisation that delivers sports programme across England- within a local primary school he had truly found his calling. In his work, Jack held the duties helping to run the breakfast and After School clubs, setting up equipment, running the warm up sessions and planning a twenty-minute lesson. Jack is very passionate in this area of work, therefore he strived within his Supported Internship and with the help from Expansive Learning, in the future wishes to carry on with this line of work. This experience as an intern has allowed Jack to gain confidence and allowed him to make his hobby a job.

Due to Jack's journey at Expansive Learning and the support of his Training Development Officers, he has flourished as a student undertaking a Supported Internship. Jack is hoping to continue his work in teaching sports in primary schools and in the more immediate future is planning on attending Wigan Athletic to study a course and of course, contain his hobbies. Indeed, Jack had immense passion for his field of work and is motivated by his love of the job and the team at Expansive Learning has no doubt that he will be successful and prosperous in this line of work and he always does what needs to be done.





PROGRESSION THROUGH EDUCATION AND CARE

Haydn is part of the *Preparation for Adulthood* programme at Expanse Learning; a programme that benefits him by implementing a hands-on approach to learning essential day-to-day living skills to help him transition from college into the adult world. *Preparation for Adulthood* grants Haydn the ability to use the skills he has acquired throughout Expanse Learning in his personal life— be that at home, in the community, with his peers and his personal assistants.

Haydn can never live a fully independent life given his limitations with his SEND needs, yet, he has exceeded expectations at Expanse Learning as he strives to become as independent as is possible for him. Taking this into consideration then, it is inspiring that he has become –with much success– the Plant Doctor at our Wigan site; finding a passion in caring for the plants and enjoyment from watching them grow. Again, due to his SEND, Haydn struggles with limited communication skills, and yet, he does not let this hold him back from being an effervescent social butterfly. At Expanse Learning he has progressed in his communication strategies, in both personal and social skills. And outside of Expanse Learning he is virtually always socialising with friends, or going on holiday, or engaging in the community. He also features in *Happy Smiles* videos where he expresses his thought and opinions aside his personal assistants. Indeed, Haydn is a very vocal and popular student who is constantly progressing in resilience to his SEND needs.

In the future Haydn would like to live on his own –with support– and continue to travel, exploring the world and experiencing new places with his personal assistants. He excels in social situations and has a clear plan in mind for his own future; all of these highlights, and re-enforces the hard work that Expanse Learning, and Haydn's support system, have done to ensure that Haydn lives as independently as he possibly can –a goal he is obviously motivated to try and achieve.





PROGRESSION THROUGH EDUCATION AND CARE

Hannah is part of the *Preparation for Adulthood* programme at Expanse Learning; a programme that benefits her by implementing a hands-on approach to learning essential day-to-day living skills to help her transition from college into the adult world. *Preparation for Adulthood* grants Hannah the ability to use the skills acquired throughout Expanse Learning in her personal life— be that at home, in the community, or anywhere she may need them.

Hannah uses the skills she has learned when she goes to SKILS CIC, a company that is a specialist provider that offers opportunities for people aged 18 and over with support needs, to enhance life skills and strengthen quality of life through positive thinking and creative activity. Hannah strives in this environment around her peers and has come a long way since starting at Expanse Learning.

Hannah takes on the role of Housekeeper at our Wigan site. This job entails cleaning the bins and taking them out with Bethany, her peer, which is a big responsibility for both girls and one that they thoroughly enjoy, and they are proud of the commitment they hold at Expanse.

With these experiences and responsibilities at Expanse Learning Hannah is becoming well prepared for the future but also the near future of progressing through Expanse Learning's learner programmes that equip her with the skills needed for employment outside of Expanse Learning.





PROGRESSION THROUGH EDUCATION AND CARE

Bethany is part of the *Preparation for Adulthood* programme at Expansive Learning; a programme that benefits her by implementing a hands-on approach to learning essential day-to-day living skills to help her transition from college into the adult world. *Preparation for Adulthood* grants Bethany the ability to use the skills acquired throughout Expansive Learning in her personal life— be that at home, in the community, or anywhere she may need them.

Bethany, due to her SEN needs had difficulty communicating, in spite of this due to her time spent at Expansive Learning Bethany has been taught new and innovative ways of communicating which support her in her on site job of Housekeeper at Wigan. This job entails cleaning the bins and taking them out with Hannah, her peer, which is a big responsibility for both girls and one that they thoroughly enjoy, and they are proud of the commitment they hold at Expansive Learning.

Outside of college Bethany gains work experience in a Pub, where she is experiencing work commitments, this will certainly help her in her future endeavours and allows her to progress with her communication skills. In the future, Bethany wishes to continue with her work experience in the pub and developing her communication skills, which Expansive Learning will continue to support her with and her and future her endeavours into adulthood.





PROGRESSION THROUGH EDUCATION AND CARE

As a student, Danielle is approaching the end of her studies at Expanse Learning; during her time here, she has progressed onto a Supported Internship. She will complete this programme at the end of the Academic Year, during this time she has worked towards the four key areas Preparing for Adulthood; Health, Community Inclusion, Independent Living, yet her main focus being employability. Danielle has also gained the substantial qualifications, in English and Math, and experienced hands-on learning at her placement.

Danielle works as an intern at Hop, Skip and Jump, a company that provides care for children and young adults with disabilities and Special Educational Needs. In her place of work Danielle's roles include: one-on-one care for children with SEN, she specifically connected with a young non-verbal autistic child and became an important part of his growth as she found innovative ways to communicate with him and grow a strong relationship. In addition to her intern commitments Danielle spends time after a full day at Expanse Learning volunteering at Hop, Skip and Jump and finds the time and energy to help others in the same situation in life that she has been in herself. As an intern she has found success and developed a real passion in this field, as her employers stated that she 'Brings a positive and professional energy to the work place, and the children love her.' They also shared that 'Her self-confidence has improved through her volunteering and she has learned to use her own initiative making us want to employ her in the future.'

Due to Danielle's journey at Expanse Learning and the support of her Training Development Officers, she has flourished as a student undertaking a Supported Internship. She will be progressing to part time paid employment at Hop, Skip and Jump. Indeed, Danielle has been motivated by her work and has ambition to undertake the relevant qualification in child care, she will be on a safeguarding course in the near future and is excited to continue supporting children with SEND.





PROGRESSION THROUGH EDUCATION AND CARE

Student Profile: Kirsty Elliott

Age: 29

Employer: Brownhill Learning Community

Job Role: Teaching Assistant

Qualification: Teaching Assistant Level 3 SEND

What skills and Knowledge have you learnt throughout your apprenticeship?

I have gained skills in providing relevant knowledge on various topics in education and applying them to my own working practice. I have learnt how to provide evidence that supports theories of education and legislations. I have learnt that there are a wide variety of schools in the local area that I work in and each schools have different behavior policies and strategies to suit the needs of the pupils in their schools.

Did you feel supported throughout your apprenticeship by your assessor and employer?

I have felt very supported throughout my apprenticeship by my assessor as she is always on hand if I need to contact her to ask for advice and support with an issue I am struggling with. My assessor has ensured that she has regular face to face contact with me at my work to suit my schedule and to make it easy for me to have a review throughout the apprenticeship. My employer agreed to give me some time to complete assignments during work hours and has accommodated observations of practice when needed.

Benefits of being an apprentice

I have found benefits from being an apprentice as the course consists of both independent work and group work during off the job training days. Working with other colleagues at work has supported my motivation during the apprenticeship.

What are you plans for when you finish you Apprenticeship?

I plan to use my qualification to secure my job role in the future or if I wanted to apply for other Teaching assistant level 3 roles.

Would you recommend Expanse Learning?

Yes, I would recommend Expanse learning, I find it a valued course and will benefit from the qualification in the future. All expanse team have been extremely supportive throughout.





PROGRESSION THROUGH EDUCATION AND CARE

Student Profile: TG

Age: 25+

Employer: LP Specialist School

Job Role: Teaching Assistant

Qualification: Supported Teaching & Learning

What skills and Knowledge have you learnt throughout your apprenticeship?

I have learnt a wide range of new skills which I feel will help me in my chosen career. I now have a better understanding of the SEND Code of Practice and how to effectively contribute, plan and support within a classroom. I have also developed and gained confidence in planning, preparing and producing session plans and schemes of work. I am also able to understand the importance of differentiation and identifying ways to support pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

Did you feel supported throughout your apprenticeship by your assessor and employer?

Yes, I felt extremely supported by both my assessor and my employer. My assessor was on hand if I needed any help or had any questions relating to my assignments. I met with my assessor regularly to gain feedback and to discuss my progress. My manager was very approachable and understanding when I needed to seek clarification on tasks and duties. I was also able to choose a day within the week to work towards my qualification. Having allocated time to work towards my qualification was great as it provided me with the time to reflect and evaluate my practice.

Benefits of being an apprentice

There are many benefits of being an Apprentice for example, you gain a better understanding of the industry because you are working directly within a work environment. It has been great for me as I have managed to fit the qualification around my home commitments.

Would you recommend Expanse Learning?

I really enjoyed working towards my Apprenticeship and I would recommend Expanse Learning, as I feel completing my Apprenticeship has helped me to gain skills and knowledge within the industry. It has also allowed me to think about my progression opportunities within the school. I can't thank Expanse Learning enough for supporting me through my qualification.





PROGRESSION THROUGH EDUCATION AND CARE

Student Profile: Kim Shailer

Age: 37

Employer: Rochdale LA

Job Role: Teaching Assistant

Qualification: Supported Teaching & Learning L2

What skills and Knowledge have you learnt throughout your apprenticeship?

I have learnt so much, more in depth knowledge on schools, our roles, safeguarding and safety in and around schools

Did you feel supported throughout your apprenticeship by your assessor and employer?

Yes, my assessor is great, very helpful and always answers any questions quickly and in depth. School have been great in allowing me time off to attend all the learning sessions and time out when I have had my reviews with my tutor.

Benefits of being an apprentice

It will extend my qualification and give me more in-depth knowledge which can only benefit the children and teachers I assist.

What are your plans for when you finish your Apprenticeship?

To obtain full time employment as a level 3 teaching assistant

Would you recommend Expansive Learning?

Definitely





Student Profile: Jade Nuttall

Age:

Employer: Newlands School - Rochdale

Job Role: Teaching Assistant

Qualification: Supported Teaching & Learning Level 3

What skills and Knowledge have you learnt throughout your apprenticeship?

I have learnt so much from starting my apprenticeship. I have learnt a lot about law and legislation, codes of conduct, safeguarding, and health and safety throughout my written work and about assessments, day to day school life, sign a long, autism and other conditions that affect the children I work with alongside strategies put in place to help them get the most out of school life.

I have been on courses on epilepsy, moving and handling, specialist seating, autism and sign along. Thanks to Ginette's (my tutor) recommendation I have also completed online courses in Prevent and Anti-bullying. Working in a specialist school I work closely with a speech and language therapist and have learnt about cued articulation and oral motor work. I have also trained with physios to do ratlines and work in the hydro pool. I have learnt a lot about sensory needs, behaviour support plans and positive handling. I can now conduct a risk assessment and know how to safely and correctly move around a child from a chair to a stander etc.

Did you feel supported throughout your apprenticeship by your assessor and employer?

Yes, I know I can email Ginette at any point and get a response. Also, attend of job training with Expanse and Ginette comes into my school regularly for reviews. In school I know exactly who to ask for help regarding certain areas, i.e. H&S and communication and they are always happy to help.

What are your plans for when you finish you Apprenticeship?

My plan for the future after once I have finished my apprenticeship is to hopefully get a job where I am now or to move to another specialist school.

Would you recommend Expanse Learning?

I would definitely recommend Expanse Learning. This course has changed my life. I have found what I am good at and plan to stick with it.

