

Lucy's Story

Lucy started working for Medway Council in February 2010. She works as a Support Services Assistant for the Medway Learning Disability Partnership Board and the Medway Getting A Life Project. She has moderate learning disabilities.

Lucy works 16 hours a week over 4 days. To support Lucy in her job she has a full time job coach that is funded by the national Access to Work fund.

At first Lucy used the Access to Work funding to pay for a travel buddy, who would support her to travel to work. Now Lucy can take the bus to work on her own. This is really good news as it means she can now travel by bus in her spare time to go clothes shopping!

A Support Co-ordinator who works for the Council and the Getting A Life Project supported Lucy to get Access to Work funding. Everything Medway Council learned from securing this funding has been shared with local families and job agencies.

Part of Lucy's job as a Support Services Assistant involves working with the Getting A Life project. Getting A Life is a project that supports 30 families and young adults with moderate to severe learning disabilities to access paid work. Lucy goes to all the Getting A Life family leadership sessions to help show families in Medway that it is possible for people with learning disabilities to find paid work. Lucy has also worked with people in the wider region to help them understand the benefits of paid work.

As part of her work training Lucy has started going to a local Speaking Up Group for adults with learning disabilities to help develop her confidence and speaking up skills.

Lucy also goes to meetings for Medway Council's Disabled Workers Forum. The forum helps Medway Council keep checks on equality and diversity in Medway and its workforce. Lucy has shared ideas at these meetings about how to make the forum easier for people with learning disabilities to access.