

## CASE STUDY

Placement: Support Work

Study: Health and Social Care

Host Employer: Specialist Child Support Centre – Isle of Anglesey

### What is GO Wales?

The 'GO Wales' programme based at Bangor University helps students to develop their employability skills and increase their chances of obtaining graduate level employment upon leaving university.

### About the student

The student was in her first year studying Health and Social Care. She was receiving support for anxiety which she had experienced for a number of years. She was keen to gain experience as a support worker but did not have the contacts or networks to help with this. The GO Wales team found two work placements shadowing support work with two different organisations which gave the student a good insight into the role.

---

### Please describe what made you decide to take part in the GO Wales Programme?

*I received information about how GO Wales can help people with work barriers / disabilities to find work experience. I wanted to gain experience as a support worker and didn't know how to gain experience myself so I decided to approach the GO Wales team.*

### Was the work placement relevant to the career path you are hoping to pursue?

*Definitely! I managed to complete two placements as a support worker which helped me to gain the experience I needed to go into support work in the future. I am even staying on in one of the placements now as a volunteer until hopefully I can be hired as a staff member.*

### How do you feel this work experience has helped you?

*I learned what is needed to be a really good support worker and also managed to develop a lot of my skills as well which was a bonus.*

### Do you feel this work opportunity has helped you overcome any barriers?

*Yes definitely, the main barrier I was facing was lack of experience and I was always scared I wouldn't be able to gain the relevant experience I would need to become a support worker. By completing two placements, I now have the experience I need to work as a successful support worker.*

### What are/have been the highlights of working at this placement?

*Being able to work alongside a support worker and learning about their role, and making brilliant new friends.*

### How have you found the support of your GO Wales advisor? How has this helped you?

*The support I received from my advisor was brilliant! They were so helpful and approachable which made the experience really good. It was so helpful because I felt like I could talk to her about any concerns and worries I had.*

### What advice would you give to students who are thinking about applying to GO Wales?

*Go for it! They're so helpful and approachable! You won't regret it one bit, they work around your availability as well which makes everything so much easier.*



Cyflawni drwy  
Brofiad Gwaith  
Achieve through  
Work Experience



\*\*\*\*\*

**The GO Wales Advisor said** *“We are really pleased with how well the student has progressed throughout this process. She has arranged to continue to volunteer with her second host employer and is enjoying being part of the team where she has made good friends. We are looking forward to hearing how she progresses.*