

Social Care Academy

Midlothian

and

East Lothian



Midlothian

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Services

76 High Street

Bonnyrigg
EH19 2AE



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Why the Social Care Academy?

Response to recruitment and
staffing shortages

Partnership formed with local
social care sector employers in
Midlothian and East Lothian

These partners include



St Josephs Services
Link Living
Scottish Society for Autism
ELCAP
Housecall
Edinvar Community Care
Ark Community Networks
Carr-Gomm
Midlothian Council
East Lothian Council
Job Centre Plus
Guideline
Training for Care



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“Training for Work”



Scottish **Enterprise**
Edinburgh and Lothian



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Training is geared towards
employer needs

Emergency First Aid

Moving & Handling

Elementary Food Hygiene

Scottish Progression Award in Care



Other skills offered by Social Care Academy

Confidence building “STEPS”

Core Skills Development

Job matching, workplace visits and placement

Job Search and interview techniques



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The programme is free to trainees

Candidates are selected for their attitude and interest in the care sector.

To qualify you must have been unemployed for at least six months in the past year.

Acceptance on the programme is subject to Enhanced Disclosure.



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Janis Wadge

Ark Community
Networks



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Transferable Skills

A skill is “practiced ability.

Expertness, knack, aptitude or talent”

Some skills are task orientated, such as driving, typing, filing, using machinery;

We can unusually make a direct comparison between tasks which helps us to transfer these abilities.

Cont/-



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Other skills however are often subconscious abilities that we use in everyday situations.

We make decisions and act on them using intuition, translating other peoples actions and behaviors to help us react in a way which helps us to communicate



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What do the following people have in common ?

Bus Driver Shop Assistant Traffic
Warden

Plumber School Meals Assistant
Cleaner

Taxi Driver Bar worker Refuse
Collector

Parent Office Assistant



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They all work with people

They all have time to talk to people

They all have to be able to **read** people

If someone is unhappy we would speak to them in a different way than someone who appears to be cheerful.

We know when to be 'polite' and when to be easy going



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How do we know these things ?

Facial expressions

Body language

Tone of voice

Words people use



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If you have these skills and

Respect everyone equally

Believe that everyone has the same rights

Think that no-one should be excluded
from society because of disability

Then you have a sound value base and
with training and the opportunity to gain
experience, you could have a rewarding
job in the Care Sector



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Stories from the Midlothian and East Lothian Social Care Academy



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Samantha - Worked for 15 years in a housing office

Her work environment had changed, she fancied a change of employment.

She knew that she wanted to work with people, saw the advert for the Social Care Academy and went along.

Samantha was not easy to place because she wanted to work office hours and the opportunities to work office hours only in the social care sector, below management level are few.

Cont/-



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She is now currently working as a Liaison Officer with an Employment Organisation, who supports adults with Learning Disabilities and Mental health issues.



Samantha's Comment

“ The Social Care Academy gave me the opportunity to confirm that I wanted to work with people - any people.

I would recommend this for anyone with a similar view ”



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Amanda - Had worked in Nursing Homes earlier in her career, but prior to joining the academy had worked in a bakers shop.

Went along to the information day for the Social Care Academy just to see what it was all about.

Amanda enrolled in the academy, really enjoyed the course and her placement.

She now works as a Support Worker with adults with Learning Difficulties, in their own homes.



Amanda's Comment

“ The Social Care Academy was good fun but serious at the same time.

I am really pleased I did the Course ”



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Caroline - Previously had worked in Retail then an office

She decided on a career change and was interested in Social Care.

Caroline now works as a support worker with adults with Learning Disabilities, in their own homes.



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Caroline's Comment

“ I didn't have the confidence to go straight into the Care Sector, I saw the Social Care Academy advertised and enrolled.

I have never looked back since.

I hope to do my SVQ Level 3 in the near future.

I am really glad I joined the academy “



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Fiona - Previously had worked as a
childminder and cleaner.

She wanted to do something
different, but her lack of
confidence held her back.



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Fiona's Comment

I thought, what do I have to lose.

So I went on the course, it gave me the confidence I needed and showed me that I could go on and learn and that I am as good as the next person.

It has encouraged me to do further learning after the course finished.



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I am working in a job I like, where you come away at the end of the day knowing that the smallest things can make a difference.

Fiona works with adults with learning difficulties supporting them to be part of the community.



First Group

March 2004

- 12 Started
- 10 Completed
- 2 Left Course Early
- 8 Employed
- 10 Completed SPA
- 2 Back onto Benefit



Second Group

September 2004

Finished March 2005

- 12 Started
- 5 Left Early
- 7 Completed SPA
- 7 Completed
- 2 Employed
- 5 Still seeking employment



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