

Hospitality and Food



William's story

“I learnt a lot at Derwen and it has given me the confidence to be successful in my new job.”

As a Hospitality and Food student, William – who has moderate learning difficulties and speech, language and communication needs – enjoyed work placements at Derwen Marketplace, the College's customer-facing outlets.

These placements, which include The Orangery Restaurant and Food Centre, helped William to progress his skills, allowing him to build confidence before moving to off-site work placements.



William says, “I did work experience at Premier Inn in Oswestry, doing housekeeping, and in Shrewsbury waiting-on in the restaurant. I also worked at Moreton Hall School doing food preparation.”

After graduating, William was able to access a catering course at a mainstream college in his home area. This led to paid employment as a Food & Beverage Assistant at a four-star hotel in Aldeburgh.

William now works in the hospitality industry at a hotel in Lavenham, putting the knowledge he learnt at Derwen College to good use as he serves customers with teas, coffee and food. 

William says “When I found out that I had a proper job at the hotel, I was really pleased.”