



LIGHTHOUSE

FUTURES TRUST

When I left school I didn't really know what I do and Lighthouse Futures Trust seemed like the best option for me. Now I know what I want to do, painting and decorating. Lighthouse Futures Trust have helped me to choose this as a job role and given me experience. I would never have known to do decorating previously.

I work with my co-workers in the hospital, and we paint around hospital wards and offices, wherever needs doing. Some days I might work with just one person and on other days it might be two. I work Tuesday to Friday from 9am to 3pm. I like it, it is good. It has helped me to learn a lot of new skills and I get on well with all my other workers.

We have to paint hospital wards and offices on the ceilings and walls. It is all inside work, no outside work. I have to prepare the walls, going round and filling holes and sanding and filling them to make them smooth. At the end of the day, I put the rollers into a bag so I can use them the next day and the brushes I wash them each day.

My work buddy is really helpful, he explains everything really well and if I don't understand something I just ask him and he doesn't mind me asking. He gives me a lot of good advice because he has lots of experience. He also has a lot of knowledge about what I can do next.

The staff at work give me plenty of time to do my work – they would rather I do it right than rush it and make a mistake – so I don't feel rushed or pressured.

I get the bus to work every day and it takes about 20 minutes. I am ok at travelling independently.

I also go to college one day a week on Monday. I study maths at college and "Votes for Colleges" where we talk about a chosen subject, e.g. Should phones be banned in schools? I said No, because they are used for safety. Passing my English was a success for me and learning about painting and decorating. My work buddy says the longer I've been there my confidence has improved and when I get asked to do a job I do it straight away and I can do it independently without loads of supervision.

When I first started, I found painting on the wards was hard because people were watching and I didn't want to make a mistake. The more I did it the more I started to not worry about it. I would like to do an apprenticeship in painting and decorating.