

Lee



In the Beginning: Lee came to CTL after completing a course in Leisure and Tourism with little idea of what he wanted to do. He had been volunteering at a local youth club in Berkshire, he really enjoyed working with young people and after speaking to his local careers service he was directed towards Chiltern Training.

Lee started his Level 2 Apprenticeship in 1997 and then progressed to his level 3 in childcare and play work. Lee started to do extra work outside of his placement, he started working for the Berkshire Association for Young People as an events coordinator, where he was working with youth clubs in Berkshire to integrate them in country wide events. Lee immersed himself in various after school and holiday clubs for young people.

What did you do after gaining your Level 2 and Level 3 apprenticeships from Chiltern? After finishing my Level 3 it gave me the inspiration to go to university to study for a youth work qualification for three years. After doing this I joined Connexions where I became a project worker. I was involved in a project to create positive activities for young people who are at the risk of exclusion and offending in Slough.

What are you doing now? I now manage this project and I also work on The Princes Trust Team Programme, which is allowing me to reach out into all areas of the community and help those in most need of guidance in their lives.

How has Chiltern Training been of benefit to you? I have never been a very academic person and doing an apprenticeship has helped me learn on the job, while also gaining the qualifications to back it up, which has helped me to get to where I am today in my career.

What Advice would you give young people who are considering a career in childcare? If you have ever wanted to work with young people then experience is key. Volunteer at local youth centres and after school clubs as this will be your gateway in, as experience is vital in this environment.

What are your plans for the future? I want to carry on working with young people and helping those who really need it and just keep on doing what I am doing!

“If you’ve ever wanted to work with young people then the experience you get doing an apprenticeship is key”