



Daniela Kalaveri



Learning Support Assistant





Comments from Daniela

I started at the college six years ago studying level 1 maths with Sharon Collier (maths tutor)

I didn't know that I actually loved maths until I joined her class.

Sharon encouraged me to go onto a teaching assistant course and from there I did GCSE maths with Bahia (maths tutor and curriculum manager for Wellbeing and Community Partnerships) and worked with Sharon who was so enthusiastic. She really makes you want to learn.

I enjoyed Bahia's classes a lot too. I started volunteering at the college because both Sharon and Bahia encouraged me to volunteer.

The volunteering course was for 12 weeks with Karen Yarnell (Curriculum Manager - Wellbeing and Community Partnerships). Once on the course, I started volunteering two days a week in maths classes for about two years. During that time I talked to Harjit (former Student Services Manager) about vacancies and when the option opened up they offered me a place and then I started working here (at The Adult College) as a learning support assistant.

When I first started taking maths classes, I never thought I would be working here but the encouragement and enthusiasm I found helped.

I had zero confidence when I first started but Sharon and Bahia helped build my confidence and allowed me to fly. They gave me my wings.

In 2020, during lockdown, I did invigilation training with Denise (Examinations Officer). The training was very thorough and gave me even more confidence.

The patience of tutors allowing me to work on my own feet allowed me to build my confidence.

Being a full-time mum I felt useless so I went to the job shop since I felt lost. I went to them and we talked about starting points and from there I decided to join the Adult College and enrol on a maths course.

Once I started level 1 maths I never turned back. It was the push within the college which helped me to walk on my feet.

It's never too late to start learning and especially if you're a full time mum it's a big step forward but my advice to others is to never turn around. Keep going forward. It's the best thing for you, your family and your friends.

Working has given me pride.

I have butterflies whenever the topic of maths comes up. The support of the teacher and the way she delivered the lesson, it helped to shape me into the person I am today. It helped me become more disciplined with myself and learn to balance things between my personal life and studies.

Sharon is a mentor to me. She has been supporting me 110 percent, allowing me to express my feelings and explore opportunities and I can't say thank you enough. She has been very positive towards my growth.

