



SFA Alumni Profile



Brendan Byrne – Youth Worker

What do you do in your job?

I work with young people aged 16-29 who are care leavers, specifically those affected by homelessness, unaccompanied asylum seekers and young offenders. I work as an ETE youth worker, standing for education training and employment, and my main role is to help the young people get into one of their career paths. I am based in South Birmingham, and most days travelling to various areas in Birmingham to meet the young people at their houses or within the community. I am able to plan my own working days.

How did you get you got to where you are?

I began studying at St Francis in 2009 and finished my GCSE's in 2014. I then went on to sixth form at St Francis and completed my A levels in 2016. I went to Sheffield Hallam University to study Criminology, and completed my studies in May 2020, graduating in November 2021.

After that I gained employment at St Basil's in Redditch, working with young people aged 16-25 affected by homelessness, I worked in their supported accommodation working as a progression coach, helping them with personal issues and preparing them for independent living.

What has been your proudest achievement or what do you enjoy most about your job?

My proudest achievement is probably graduating at university. I enjoy helping people in my job, and seeing the young people I work with get into employment training or education. Some of the young people will feed back to me after they have got into something, and that is always nice to hear.

What school subjects do you think are most useful to the job you do?

I think sociology and law were massive for me as it helped me get an understanding of society and life, and that everyone struggles with something. I did also personally enjoy English.