



Meet Luke

Senior Care Assistant, Holme View Resource Centre

Luke works as a senior care assistant at a residential home and assessment unit that provides care to older people, including those living with dementia. Caring for his grandparents made him realise he wanted a career in social care. He started a degree in mental health nursing but decided his skills were better suited to social care.

What is a senior care assistant in social care?

Luke works as a senior care assistant at a residential care home that provides care to older people, including those living with dementia. His role includes:

- working within a team to provide person-centred care
- delegating tasks and supporting others to ensure shifts run smoothly
- supporting managers in covering staff rotas
- overseeing staff training
- helping managers to ensure staff have DBS checks
- booking training and providing mentoring for new staff.



Luke particularly enjoys meeting new people and getting to know the people he's supporting. He gets great job satisfaction from seeing the positive changes he and the team make to people's lives.

How did he get here?

Luke became interested in social care when he helped care for his grandparents, and decided this was what he wanted to do as a career.

He went to college to complete a Level 2 Diploma in Health and Social Care, and volunteered with one of Bradford Council's dementia units to gain experience. He was encouraged to apply for a role as a domestic assistant and later progressed into a care worker role.

He later successfully applied for a senior carer role at Holme View Resource Centre. Luke left for 6 months to start a degree in mental health nursing, but soon decided that it wasn't for him as he thought his skills were best suited to a social care environment rather than a medical one. Luke had to re-apply for his senior carer position and was successful.

In this role he has completed a Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care at college as well as a Level 3 Award in Dementia and a qualification in Dementia Care Mapping at Bradford University. He's hoping to complete the council's 'Young Leader's Experience' which will give him the opportunity to work alongside one of the service directors to gain some insight into a management role.

Where can it take him?

Luke hopes to complete a degree in social work and to focus his studies on social work with older adults.

In the future, to help him prepare for his degree, he's hoping to complete some training alongside colleagues in the social work department (something that will be supported by his employer).



What would he say to others interested in a career in care?

Luke would recommend working in social care as it's a very rewarding career and there are lots of opportunities to progress. He says "you can get a lot from the job" and enjoys going home at the end of the day knowing he's making a difference.

He recommends volunteering as a good way of finding out whether care is right for you. There are lots of different people you could support and it's important to find where your skills and interests lie before applying for roles.

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