



Suffolk WORKFORCE

Enabling people to lead active lives



During the development of the Workforce Strategy, a gap was identified between students leaving college and having the right skills and competencies to get a job within the Sport & Physical Activity Sector.

As a result, in partnership with local leisure operators and Suffolk ONE, Active Suffolk offered the NPLQ (National Pool & Lifeguarding Qualification) to BTEC students who had a general interest in gaining a job in the sector after their studies. Eight students completed the NPLQ in October 2018, all of whom now work part time as a Lifeguard. Here is Madeline's story....



My name is Madeline, I'm 17 years old & I've always been a sporty person. I achieved my PADI qualification at the age of 11 and my next ambition was to complete my Life guarding qualification as soon as I turned 16, followed by gaining work in the industry whilst studying.

Unfortunately in July 2016 I was diagnosed with a rare Liver condition where I have spent the last two and half years dealing with my condition and getting better. My dream has been to get well and achieve the goals I had before I was ill. When the NPLQ offer came along, I felt ready to commit to the course. Active Suffolk and Ipswich BC were both fantastic in adapting the course, allowing me more time to complete sections and have regular breaks (I get very tired due to my condition).

I successfully completed the course and have now managed to secure part time Lifeguarding work on a regular basis. Once I have completed my A Levels I plan to pursue my dream of working full time in the industry. I can't thank all 3 organisations enough for giving me this opportunity at a time in my life when things seemed pretty negative. I now have more independence, my self esteem has rocketed and I can't wait to see what the future holds!

