

## We believe that, with the right job and the right support, everyone can work.

Visit our website [www.base-uk.org](http://www.base-uk.org) for details of a supported employment service near you.

The services our members can provide include:

- » help to build confidence and self esteem
- » training, from basic skills to vocational and professional qualification
- » help to match you with the right job for your experience and skills
- » organise work trials so you can try a job and gain experience
- » help through the interview process, sometimes even attending interviews with you for support
- » provide 'on the job' help to guide and support you through the early stages
- » advising potential employers on reasonable adjustments
- » help to keep your job if you become disabled or are finding work difficult with your existing disability.



@base\_tweets



[facebook.com/base.uk](https://facebook.com/base.uk)

**BASE is the national trade association for hundreds of agencies involved in securing employment for people with disabilities. The association aims to raise awareness of supported employment, represent the sector on a collective basis, inform members, and encourage best practice.**

Our website also has lots of information for people with disabilities who are looking for employment.

[base-uk.org](http://base-uk.org)

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## Supporting and sustaining a diverse workforce

### With thanks to

#### Coventry:

The Employment Support Service (TESS)  
and Kite Packaging,

#### Kirklees:

REAL Employment and Tastecard,

#### Leeds:

Pluss and Vision Office.

BASE is registered in England and Wales as a company  
Reg No 05794990 Registered Charity No 1136395.



**base**  
british association for  
supported employment

12 months ago, Kieran was desperate for the opportunity to get paid work but didn't know who to turn to for help. He has autism so struggles with communication and needs support with literacy and numeracy.

A job coach from Coventry's Employment Support Service (TESS) worked with a local employer, Kite Packaging, to put together a job at their company. Kieran had a short work trial as a janitor with a Job Coach from TESS working alongside him to help him learn his new job. Kieran got the job and 12 months later is still working at Kite Packaging.

**Commercial Manager Dave from Kite Packaging says**

"Kieran has had a 100% attendance record and his time keeping is excellent. He does his job to a high standard day after day and is such a valued member of the team; we can't imagine the warehouse without him now."

**Kieran's Mum is equally pleased with the outcome.**

"Kieran is a different person to live with; he's so much more confident and loves earning his own money, he's now the man of the house!"



Maria has been working at Tastecard for 18 months with support from Kirklees' Real Employment service. She has done so well with her performance that she has been given a progression and development opportunity within the company.

Maria started out stuffing envelopes, but she has now progressed onto the full dispatch team who send out items for trials and memberships.

In Maria's new role, she proof reads items before they are dispatched, works on the computer, prints memberships and checks post returns using the admin system. Maria said,

"When I was first asked to do new things, I felt scared and wary, but saw what other staff were doing and wanted to give it a go."

Lucy, Maria's line manager says,

"Maria is a practical learner and once shown how to do a job, does it well and to the best of her ability, she is now showing other staff how to do returns."

Lucy worked on a one to one basis with Maria and found that Maria is good at asking for help rather than worrying about things, she has seen Maria grow in confidence. Maria added, "Lucy and Sarah in the dispatch team have helped me a lot, I love my job and have lots of new friends."

**Dan, an Administrator at furniture supplier, Vision Office, said**

"I've got schizo-affective disorder, I get mood changes suddenly and I can get anxious. Stressful situations are not good for me, my thoughts race. My medication also causes slight tremors, which means that there are certain things I can't do.

"I was doing an admin job in my early 20s when I had a breakdown. I've been an outpatient at a mental hospital for a few years and also as an inpatient before. As a result my confidence was low and it took me a long time to get better. Jobcentre Plus referred me to Pluss. Work has really helped, especially as it started as part time and now I feel confident that I could go full time."

**Richard Lucas is the Director at Vision Office and Dan's manager. He said,**

"Dan's been really good at learning Twitter, etc. and customer service is all really good on his side. I think his confidence lets him down sometimes: he does a lot more than he thinks he does. I have to be out and about so I have to have someone here to look after the office and I know I can leave him here.

"I got a really strong gut feeling with Dan and everything has gone really well. Pluss got to know me and my business first and didn't just chuck anyone into the role."

