

## **Aretha Graham-Modeste Success Story**

Aretha was working as a team leader in Whippersnappers CIC company. Working with SEN children.

She had been offered a promotion to a team leading role but needed to study childcare at level 3 as part of the role. This would require her to have English at level 2. When she came to MI she was assessed at working towards level 2 so was able to join at the required level. She successfully completed and has progressed to a Level 3 course in Children and Young People workforce.



Aretha came into the course saying she had a fear of public speaking. She felt that she wanted to gain confidence in speaking for her professional life. In addition to the qualifications, she has gained more confidence in the workplace with speaking and in her written communication.

Aretha has gained confidence in public speaking and the realization that she can continue her learning journey. Her future plans are to continue learning. She would like to enrol in university to take a degree in psychology.

"I always loved English and saw this course as an opportunity to refresh my skills, which I needed for my Level 3 course and new job role. The one exam that scared me the most was Speaking and Listening because of my fear of public speaking. After a thorough explanation and reassurance from Sonya I was soon warmed to the idea. I had a very supportive class with more than one student with similar challenges. We all worked together and overcame the limitation of public speaking. I was able to successfully complete my speaking and listening exam and was able to encourage and assist my fellow classmates which was so rewarding and encouraged team building. This course has boosted my literacy skills in more than one way than one and I thank my tutor and MI Skills for making this an enjoyable and rewarding experience. My communication skills in writing emails, letters and reports have improved immensely, but my biggest achievement is my presentation skills which is very key for my new role. I will now be able to conduct my meetings, pre/debriefings in a more confident manner."

Quote from Sonya Khan English tutor

"Aretha has been a pleasure to have in the class. She was motivated to learn and to increase her knowledge from day one. She has also been a positive influence on her classmates by supporting and helping them in the classroom. She worked well with everyone in the class and has been a ray of sunshine with her sense of humour and positive outlook on things."