Case Study 1

A small family run restaurant in Peterborough was in search of a Kitchen Assistant to aid their chef in basic food preparation and cleaning. They were struggling to recruit, as it was very part-time hours, whilst they built up the business. Josh had some previous catering experience, but struggled to get into work, as employers were unable to see past the fact he was deaf. In addition, Josh also had Asperger's Syndrome.

At Papworth, we liaised with the employer and Josh, and arranged a BSL interpreter to attend and support at the interview. The employers agreed to start with a short work trial to see if the environment was right for Josh. The work trial was successful and Josh was offered 10 hours of paid work a week.

For the first 3 months a BSL interpreter, paid for through Access to Work, supported Josh until he was confident with the role. A year later, Josh is still in his job, is now doing additional hours for the company, manages without the interpreter, and is a key member of the team.

