

Café on the Corner

FR: My name is Fi Robertson and I work at Café on the Corner. I've worked at the café for 3 years and do a variety of tasks ranging from making soup to serving customers to doing veg prep, serving coffees, drinks, clearing the tables, doing the washing up. This job suits me because it means I can learn new things which I haven't done before like baking, making soup and also it's an environment where I can be myself and I can take my time to learn so I'm not pressured to learn quickly and I can be who I am, and not have to be anybody else.

MC: I'm Maxine Cramb, and I'm the Manager of the Café on the Corner. Fiona has now been with us for about three years so since the café opened. She's very reliable, she just gets on with her work, nothing seems to phase her at all. When she first started she was a little bit nervous when it got quite busy, but now she seems to be coping really well with it. She's very organised which definitely helps with us because we're quite a sort of small space, small area. She's brilliant at helping us keep organised, get everything in the right place.

FR: It's an environment where you can learn, like I said before, you can learn at your own pace, you're not pressured or pushed or you're not put down or fired after two weeks or whatever because you can't keep up. Here if you're slow it doesn't matter, they understand that and they give you a longer time to work on the job. It's a supported environment as well, when the Manager's actually carrying us as staff, we're not left out there trying to you know, carry everything and do everything without management support. Management work together with staff and that just makes it a far better environment to work in.

MC: Our working relationship is very good, we always try to make it enjoyable to come into work. Fiona's always very upbeat and enjoys coming in every day and she's very good, she's a team player as well. Again because it's quite a small team it's very important obviously that everyone can work together, she's a team player and so she fits in very well as part of the team.

FR: I love making soup, I love being in the kitchen with me tunes on and making the soups and just helping the managers and I like all the banter that we have together, and sometimes it can be fun with some of our regular customers who are very nice, you look forward to them coming in, so I think that's probably the best thing about working there.