



Learning Household Skills



Images in this success story are for illustration only and do not necessarily depict the actual client.

Background

Client C frequently attends Oak Lodge and has always been happy at the centre. However, she often tried to help staff with other clients, putting herself at potential risk and not always being helpful in the way she said things to other clients.

What We Did

We looked for a way she could be helpful without putting herself in harm's way. We explored new activities inside and outside the centre to encourage more positive and meaningful engagement. Client C showed an interest in helping in the kitchen, so we initially supported her with learning how to wash up her own cup, this then expanded very quickly to washing up other items in the sink. Client C then started to engage in other areas of household chores, with staff support on how and when to complete these tasks.

Client Success

Client C has now found several ways of helping the staff and clients in a positive and constructive way. Now, not only does she get fulfilment and positive engagement from the staff and clients, but has learnt new life skills and gained confidence in using these skills.

Client C now helps the centre staff with the washing up, and will do this independently. She has been heard saying "Look at this mess, I guess I will clean up" and has started washing up with no prompting from the team. She will also pick up a broom after people have finished their lunches and sweep the floor. But perhaps her biggest improvement in competence and confidence is when, at the beginning of her day and mid-afternoon, she asks staff and clients "do you want a cup of tea?", makes the drink and then takes it to them. She can follow the list of people's favourite drinks and how they like them, so everyone is happy with their drink and she is happy to help.