



**Rachael Peters**  
**Suffolk County Council**  
**Apprentice Social Worker - First Year**

## **WHEN DID YOU START AS AN APPRENTICE SOCIAL WORKER?**

September 2023.

## **WHAT WERE YOU DOING BEFORE YOU STARTED YOUR APPRENTICESHIP?**

I was a Family Support Practitioner.

## **WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO PURSUE A CAREER IN SOCIAL WORK?**

I had previously worked as a Business Support Officer in Ipswich in CYPS and gained a lot of insight into what social workers did and I knew that I wanted to do it.

## **DID YOUR PREVIOUS EXPERIENCES INFLUENCE YOUR DECISION TO PURSUE SOCIAL WORK? IF SO - HOW?**

Working in Early Help really helped my decision to pursue social work definitely, as you work closely with social workers and being able to see the difference they make to people's lives, is amazing.

## **HOW HAVE YOU FOUND THE EXPERIENCE OF BEING AN APPRENTICE SOCIAL WORKER?**

I have loved it so far – Uni has been really interesting; my new team have been amazing, and Lisa from Workforce Development is always there to support us which has been so helpful.

## **WOULD YOU RECOMMEND AN APPRENTICESHIP IN SOCIAL WORK TO SOMEONE CONSIDERING IT?**

A million percent, it is so rewarding, and it is so exciting to be able to get to the next step in your career.