

“working as a PA is the best job in the world”



Alexandra Finnegan

Personal Assistant

Alexandra Finnegan, 37, has been working as a personal assistant (PA) for the past 11 months and says “working as a PA is the best job in the world!”

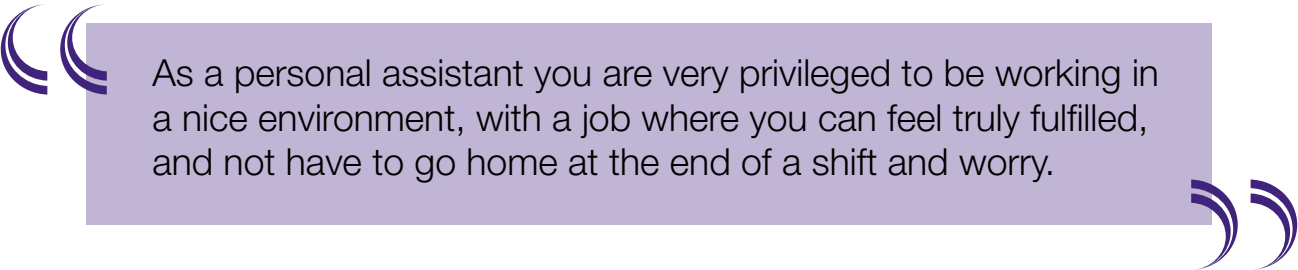
Alexandra has worked in social care for seven years and has had a variety of roles, including working in residential and nursing homes, and as a community nurse. She initially started working in the sector to consolidate some of the basic skills she was learning as a student nurse. She returned to social care as she was looking for a role with more flexibility and enjoyment.

In her current role Alexandra works with a team of PAs to ensure the needs of her employer are fully met. This ranges from making sure her personal care needs are met to enabling her to socialise and carry out any activity she chooses.

Alexandra says the most satisfying aspect of her role is being able to ensure that proper care is being delivered on a one-to-one basis and forming a really close bond with that person to ensure all their needs are met. She has built up a good relationship with her employer and says: “I have been very lucky as working with my boss is like working with a friend.”

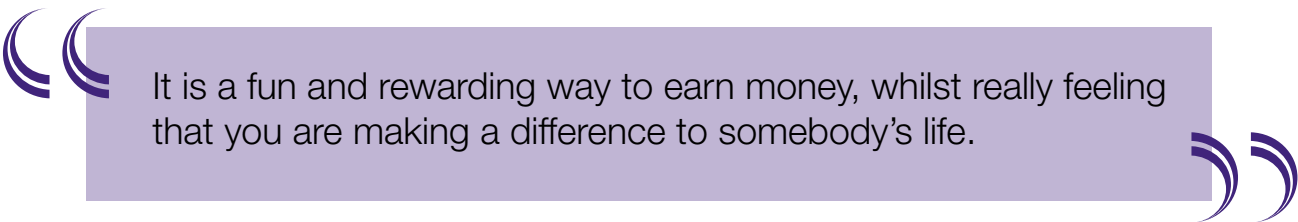
Throughout her career in social care Alexandra has undertaken numerous training courses including disability equality training, lone working and deaf awareness. In her role she has good support available from her employer, other members of the team, family and friends, as well as external organisations.

Alexandra believes the PA role is unique and says:



As a personal assistant you are very privileged to be working in a nice environment, with a job where you can feel truly fulfilled, and not have to go home at the end of a shift and worry.

A career in social care is something Alexandra would recommend:



It is a fun and rewarding way to earn money, whilst really feeling that you are making a difference to somebody's life.

For the future Alexandra would like to gain more skills and knowledge to be the best that she can be in her role as a personal assistant.

For more information about working in social care visit
www.skillsforcare.org.uk/careerpathways