



## David Davies

### Scheme manager - ategi Shared Lives Herefordshire

David works as a scheme manager for ategi, a Cardiff-based charity that supports vulnerable adults across England and Wales. After speaking to his friend, who was a social worker, David looked into the career options in social care having previously worked in conservation and recycling. He later joined a care sector agency, working shifts in local day centres and care homes, supporting adults with autism and learning disabilities.

#### **Becoming a scheme manager**

Whilst working as a community worker for West Berkshire local authority he was seconded to the adult placement/shared lives team and worked his way up to become a manager. He then completed his NVQ4 Registered Managers Award and moved to South Wales to work for Rhondda Cynon Taff Council's in the fostering and adoption team. This position provided valuable experience of working in children's services, which helped him to secure the post of scheme manager with the ategi Shared Lives scheme in Herefordshire.

#### **Being a scheme manager and career progression**

Building relationships with families and social workers is an important part of his day to day role and he currently manages a team of three workers, which help to support communities across Herefordshire. His main responsibilities are recruiting trained carers, supervising staff and liaising with local commissioners to ensure they are meeting the desired outcomes of people in need of care and support. This role provides David with a range of opportunities for career progression and he could apply his skills to the residential care sector, or as a commissioning officer.

*"Becoming a care worker was never offered to me whilst at school, it was very much seen as a female role. I enjoy care work so much that my wife and I became Shared Lives carers and offer short-breaks to vulnerable adults in our own home."*

