

Care in Scotland it's life changing work

Ruth Tudor,
Residential child care
worker

"It is very rewarding when you see a young person progress and know you have been part of that progression"



Ruth has worked in residential child care since 2004 in various services.

Can you tell us about your job?

In residential child care we provide a stable home environment, caring for young people to help with daily community living, including mainstream education where possible.


Who else is in your team?

Core team of six staff and house manager.

What part of your job motivates you and why?

The ability to support young people to improve their lives and succeed, whether through education, return to family, leaving care and moving on to the next life stage. Seeing a change in behaviour that suggests they have responded to our care – however small.





What are the challenges that you face in your job?

The young people we care for often display challenging behaviour and so helping them understand why they behave the way they do and how they can help themselves alter the behaviour for an improved sense of self.

In what way is your career in social services rewarding?

Providing support to enable people to do things that I take for granted, knowing I have improved (even in a small way) someone's life.

Can you explain the skills and qualities you think are needed to do the role you're doing?

Empathy, congruence, unconditional positive regard, patience, tolerance, ability to be non-judgemental, aware of my own limitations, not afraid to admit when I am wrong, good listener and the ability to be rational.

Has your job opened up new learning and development for you?


I receive yearly training on crisis and anger limitation and management, child protection and the sanctuary model – the model used within Care Visions.

How do you see your career progressing?

At the present time I am unsure. I also have a job as a part-time lecturer in my local college, teaching on the HNC in Social Care and I have other pressures on my time which will take me to July 2016 when I will feel better placed to decide what I do next. I would anticipate that I will remain in third sector employment or continue teaching.

What would you say to someone thinking about a career in social services?

It is a job of highs and lows and is incredibly hard work. It is, however, very rewarding when you see a young person progress and know you have been part of that progression.





Is a career in care the career for you?

Try our interactive resource, **A question of care: a career for you** to see what a career in care is like. At the end you'll receive a detailed personal profile that tells you if you've got what it takes to join us!

You can hear from people already working in social care, early years or social work as they talk about why they love their job and what a difference they make to someone's life. And find out about the many different types of jobs and areas you can work in.

For more information on careers in social services visit sssc.uk.com

For more job profiles from across the social service sector visit ssscnews.uk.com

