

Portslade Student is an Adult Learner of the Year

Rebekah Gavra is our Adult Learner of the Year, she received her award at a special evening at Hove Town Hall on 12th May. Rebekah showed a great determination to make progress and achieve success during her year at the college. This is Rebekah's story in her own words.

My name is Rebekah and I have Asperger syndrome. I am 22 years old.

Because of my condition, nobody would accept me into mainstream education and until I was twenty years old, I lived at home.

I was very depressed and worried about my future because nobody believed that I could go to college or work.

I was very pleased when Sue at Portslade Community College helped me to enrol on courses to study Literacy with Joyce, Numeracy with Yvonne, Cake Decoration with Tracy and Art with Debbie. The teachers were lovely towards me and I made some good friends as well. Everybody at the Community College was supportive, helpful and reassuring and my learning has improved a lot. As a result I am studying Catering NVQ Level 1, full-time, at City College.

My teachers treated me as a mainstream learner and that made me feel great and extremely proud of myself. I feel that I have achieved huge improvements in my independence and I feel more positive about my future. My dream is to become a chef and live independently and show others how well I can do in life. Without Portslade Community College none of this would have been possible.

We are all thrilled that Rebekah did so well and that her time at Portslade was the key to her starting a full-time course in the area of her chosen career. We wish Rebekah every success with her further studies.