

William - Work Experience Placement to Qualified Pharmacist at Weldricks



After completing a work experience placement with Weldricks in 1998 Will was offered work as a Saturday Assistant there, due to his enthusiasm, interest and polite manner.

Will's work placement provided him with the knowledge and awareness of Pharmacy work that inspired him to become a Pharmacist; though he knew he would need to work hard to complete the necessary qualifications. Studying at South Axholme Secondary School and John Leggott College, Will achieved 11 GCSEs, 4 'A' levels and he then went on to complete a Masters degree in Pharmacy at Manchester University.

Will has now also completed other training, specifically related to his work with Weldricks. As a fully qualified Pharmacist, Will's work is very varied. It involves handing out prescriptions, managing the dispensary and completing all the paperwork necessary for the handling of over the counter drugs and special orders, in line with European laws and ethics. Will also advises customers on drugs use for minor illnesses over the counter; providing direct customer support, which was once only available through a visit to the Doctors.

Working 39 hours a week in a busy pharmacy environment Will explained that the skills needed most to complete his daily tasks are organisational skills, communication skills, team working and delegation. The things he likes most about his work are the friendly staff at Weldricks, his level of responsibility and the satisfaction which comes from being able to help customers.

Will is a professional employee who willingly accepts his job as a Pharmacist requires him to continuously develop and improve his knowledge. Because of this he feels it is important to be aware that occasionally his heavy work load and busy working environment have led to a lack of study time and this can cause some stress and worry.

After becoming the Branch Pharmacist at our Intake pharmacy in Doncaster, Will introduced various services. He ensured the branch offered services to drug abusers, to help them beat the habit of drugs. He started a free blood pressure monitoring service for all patients, allowing him to interact with patients on a one to one basis, which provided a fantastic opportunity to discuss any issues that patients had with their medicines. Will also has an interest in helping pharmacy students and has led training sessions focusing on the preparations for their final exam, as well as a session which focused on the new and enhanced services that pharmacists now offer. Will's keen approach and enthusiasm led to him being named 'Innovative Pharmacist of the Year' within Weldricks, and later the same year he picked up a national Pharmacy Business Award in the 'Young Pharmacist of the Year 07' category.

Will has recently been promoted to manage one of the larger Weldricks branches in Hatfield, Doncaster. He has now been named as a finalist in the 'Young Pharmacist' category at the Chemist and Druggist Awards 2008. He is also an advocate in a new initiative to promote new services to other pharmacists within the company and to help them overcome any problems or barriers that they might encounter.