

# adult learners week

Derrin Chesters Age: 19

## Level 2 Hairdressing

“When I was still in school I did a school study programme with Michael John and I absolutely loved my time on the course, I knew it was something I wanted to complete. By the age of 17 I was single mum and it was a tough time for me, I decided I wanted to build a better life and make my son proud of me.

Having my son is what gave me the determination to go back to college and retrain, although I am not the oldest of adult learners, I still felt like I might be penalised or treated differently from other learners, which I wasn't.

I have had no problems with my course since starting I have enjoyed every moment of it. The biggest struggle I have had is the expense of getting to and from the college and affording childcare costs; I have had funding for the course which has now ran out so my goal is to move across to an apprenticeship.

My tutor Nicki has always been very understanding and supportive and Stephen is trying to see if he can find another form of funding so I can continue on. This course has given me a lot to look forward to in my future and I hope to complete my training and become a hairdressing tutor.”



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reaching **Further** aiming **Higher** staying **Safe** valuing **Diversity**

*michaelJohn*  
Academy