

## My work is social care as a Nursery Nurse

# Nia Jane Jones

**Age:** 23

**Lives on a farm in north Ceredigion**

**Hours of work:** Full-time

**Place of work:** Bright Horizons Family Solutions, IGER, Plas Gogerddan, Aberystwyth



**I am employed as a Nursery Nurse with the tiniest babies between six weeks and 12 months old.** Two of us care for six babies per day.

**I have done this work for four years.** I previously worked as a nanny to a family with children aged one, four, five and seven, in a rural town. I have nine cousins living nearby, seven of them are younger than me, so I am used to children. My grandparents were from large families of 10! I was pretty sure that I wanted to work with children, since I was 11 years old.

**I live on the family farm which rears 30 beef cattle and 300 sheep.** I like practical work, helping with the shearing or tractor driving. My best subjects at school were practical ones, food and nutrition, textiles and drama. My mother and my sister Rhian are also employed, but in agricultural administration. Dad is the full-time farmer.

**I started this work when I first left school aged 16,** volunteering on a summer play-scheme for toddlers, and the Ceredigion DASH scheme (Disabled and Self Help together). I have provided respite care for

children with multiple disabilities and was employed as transport escort to disabled children for the Family Support Team.

**How did I get my qualifications?**

I completed NVQ 2 in 2000 and whilst working full-time I completed my NVQ 3 in May 2005, which is equivalent to NNEB. Bright Horizons Family Solutions completed the training. I attend regular training in all kinds of courses provided locally by Clybiau Plant Cymru. This keeps me up-to-date and I am appraised regularly by my employers. I am Welsh-speaking.

**What I like about my job is realising my earliest ambition, gaining more experience and confidence in work that is close to my heart.** I like others' company here.

**Are there any negative aspects?**

Payment for respite care can be quite low, dependent on your employer. That may be the reason why it doesn't attract more people to do it, but it does provide you with a strong base from which to develop your career in childcare.



Gaining more experience and confidence in work that is close to my heart.