

Yasotha was initially referred by Southall Jobcentre Plus to enrol on a suitable course. She received initial advice and guidance from ATN's adviser followed by initial diagnostics to identify her level. She explained to her adviser that she has worked as a teacher in Sri Lanka and understands that she needs UK based qualifications to be able to work as a teacher here. She identified her main barrier as lack of confidence and low self esteem. She was advised to start with gaining level 2 qualifications in English and Maths, and also to gain some work experience as a teaching assistant in local primary school.

She enrolled on Functional Skills English level 2 in January 2018 and on successful completion enrolled on Functional Skills Maths level 2 in March 2018, followed by Start IT entry 3 in May 2018.

Yasotha was extremely shy when she started the course but soon gained a lot of confidence and contributed well towards her studies. Upon completion of her IT course she requested another appointment with the career adviser at ATN and as a result she decided to apply for a voluntary classroom assistant position at ATN. She started volunteering in July 2018 and performed so well that within a few weeks she was offered a part-time position at ATN as a classroom assistant.

Yasotha said: "ATN's manager has given me a golden opportunity and it has changed my life for the better. I am so confident now. I have learnt new skills and my future is looking bright."