



Part of being a Skills Trainer is normally to meet an individual face-to-face, whether it is to sign them up on to the Employability project or to discuss their interest in training courses, and to offer them support in their employment/learning journey. The ability to meet individuals face-to-face had to come to a stop, but the communication hadn't, meaning we could continue signing people up and to support and encourage many. We found new ways of communicating with colleagues, training providers and participants. We adapted new and existing ways to train and learn, and more importantly to overcome barriers

Technology has proved to be a useful tool; technology pre-existed but for some, was and is a minefield. I have been extremely proud of participants who have overcome their fear of technology and their many life barriers they have had to face during COVID-19; from job losses, to childcare issues, to mental health and well-being, and have modified their lives and adapted. We have been able to signpost people in so many areas to give them that support they need which then allows them to continue with their learning journey.

We have overcome many training barriers by liaising with training providers to ensure participants can complete training through many platforms from Skype, workbooks, quizzes and many more online adaptations. There is a whole world of training courses out there on the World Wide Web and we've been finding them.