

Bestco Training

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Butt Foods

Employer Description

Butt foods is a small factory involved in the manufacture of naan bread for large retailers such as Sainsbury's.

The majority of the employees in the factory originate from Pakistan and India: speaking mainly Urdu and Punjabi. Their English language abilities range from a pre-entry level to those who are fluent. The employees speak their home language to facilitate communication so English language is not utilised in the workplace. This creates communication problems for the employer and difficulty in reading certain instructions and operating machinery.

Learner Progress and Achievement

There are a number of employees involved in the scheme and all have shown improvement in their spoken and written English ability and also marked improvement in self-confidence. A few employees, in particular, have progressed greatly which will be expanded below:

Employee A is from Pakistan and has been in the UK for 15 years. He has worked all over the Middle East including Saudi Arabia with the ruling family. He began working for Butt Foods when it was just starting out, speaking very little English. He is a supervisor in the company and creates all the various sauces and fillings used for the many product manufactured. He has been mainly self-taught and his spoken English is fairly good, however he lacked confidence and had difficulty with reading and writing. Since beginning the programme he has progressed greatly. He is far more confident in his speech and has improved his written ability and begun reading English novels and newspapers at home. He is also able to transcribe his recipes with more confidence. Employee A will shortly be completing a Literacy qualification at Entry 2 level.

Employee B is from India. The company has employed him for approximately 2 years. He works as a packer on the production line and plays in a band on weekends, being an accomplished musician. He had minimal English language skills upon starting the scheme.

He was unable to write his name, address, fill in a form or remember the time, days of the week, months and numbers in English. This created extreme difficulties for him in terms of shift patterns, any paperwork or forms and affected his confidence. Employee B has shown tremendous improvement; he can now perform basic greetings in English, provide and ask for basic information and understands instructions. He is able to write his name and address, remember time, numbers and the days of the week/ months. This has boosted his confidence and improved his work performance and understanding of his job roles. Employee B is completing a Literacy qualification at Entry 1 level.
