Advice for your first day of work in social care

Regardless of the role you’re going to be doing, it’s important to make the right impression on your first day. Use the following ten tips to make sure you’re prepared.

1. The week before, check where you need to be, it may be a different location from where you had your interview. Also check what time they want you to arrive, you don’t want to be late! Consider doing a practice run of the journey, especially if you’re travelling in rush hour.

2. Check travel details, including where you can park if you are driving. Don’t forget to have change for parking meters if required.

3. Wear appropriate clothes, remember that working in social care means you could be on your feet for much of the time.

4. Re-read their letter offering you the job as they may ask you to take along paperwork eg bank details for them to be able to pay your wages.

5. Refresh your memory about your new employer by re-reading their website and any current news about them and the social care industry.

6. Take a notebook and pen, there will be a lot to take in and learn.

7. Be ready to ask questions if there’s anything you don’t understand.

8. Do your best to remember as many people’s names as possible, write them down if needed. It will help you get your working relationship with them off to a good start.

9. Be prepared to learn the way your new colleagues and company work before suggesting changes.

10. Stay positive, you will probably find your first day and week very tiring, but don’t give up as very soon you’ll find it gets easier.