

Title: **Case Study
Hospitality & Catering
in the West of England**

Becky Woodfield is determined to gain good qualifications and as much experience as she can to help her get ahead in the competitive hospitality industry.

She is in the first year of a Foundation Degree in Food and Beverage Management at City of Bristol College. The course means she spends two days a week in college, leaving her the rest of the week to do college work at home and for her job at the Henbury Lodge Hotel in Bristol.

At the hotel she has a range of duties including waitressing, working on reception and housekeeping. She says the Foundation Degree complements her work, and follows on from a previous course in hospitality supervision.

“This course is much more about the management side of the industry rather than the delivery,” she says. “So it’s opened my eyes to a lot more detail and it’s in a lot more depth.”

Becky, aged 20, attended St Mary Redcliffe & Temple School in Bristol. She stayed on in the sixth form to study English, Sociology and Art, but left after her first year AS level exams.

“I just found it wasn’t for me,” she says. “I’d found out about the Hospitality and Supervision BTEC National Certificate course at City of Bristol College. I was working part-time at the hotel and I did enjoy it. I was good at it and I thought this course was a great opportunity.”

The Foundation Degree in Food and Beverage Management is designed to help you gain valuable skills for the catering and hospitality industry, which increasingly needs a professional and highly-skilled workforce to manage kitchens and restaurants.

Modules studied include food and drink operations, food preparation, marketing, managing events, food safety and advanced food preparation.

At the end of the two year course Becky will have the option of moving on to Plymouth University to ‘top up’ her qualification to a full Honours Degree in Hospitality Management, or to work full time in the industry.

As well as gaining higher level qualifications it’s vital to get a range of work experience. “Everything is so competitive now,” she says. “I want to work for a variety of places, and get more experience so I can impress employers. A lot of people going for jobs in this industry have degrees, so you have to have a bit extra.”