

## Sayka Hussain, Childhood, Culture and Education, 2008

### Current role

Community development worker. Currently working on a project called "Daddy Long Legs", the aim of the project is to promote positive parenting for fathers/male carers of under 5s focusing on raising attainment. Working for Murray Hall Community Trust which is funded by the NHS, at the moment I am seconded to Sure Start Children's Centre in Rowley Regis

### Career experiences

After graduation I started to apply to different posts within the social/education sector that interested me. I attended a few interviews but my lack of experience let me down. However a month after graduating I was offered my current job.

### What is the best thing about what you are doing now?

I work with people from different walks of life; my work makes a positive difference, therefore I can see my hard work paying off in front of me.

### And the worst thing?

The pay.

### What was the best thing about your time as a student here?

I made great friends, learnt some fantastic subjects, overall because of my time at Birmingham I am more confident in approaching new challenges as I have a firm and broad base of academic knowledge.

### Would you have done anything differently?

I might have planned more effectively about what I would do after my degree. Maybe even doing voluntary work in areas of interest. As well as using all the extended services available such as academic writing.

### In what way did living and studying in Birmingham live up to your expectations?

The university is regarded as a great institution, and as I live in Birmingham I was aware of its reputation. Overall studying at the university is an advantage as it is well respected amongst employers.

### Advice for current students

The best advice I would give is to get some experience within the social sector. By doing this the complexities of such a role will be more apparent.