

National Open College Network (NOCN) Outstanding Achievement Award

Darren Bailey, Lancaster

Sue Keenan (Lancaster and Morecambe College) – Darren had a very negative experience of schooling really.

Darren Bailey – When I left school at 16 with no qualifications, I fell in with the wrong crowd, ended up getting myself into all sorts of trouble.

Sue Keenan (Lancaster and Morecambe College) – There's quite a lot time really, I think, when Darren was a bit aimless.

Darren Bailey – At 30 I decided to get my basic numeracy and literacy qualifications. I found a passion for it so I expanded into I.T which is something that I've always been interested in.

Sue Keenan (Lancaster and Morecambe College) – Every time I saw him he was glued to the computer, he was really interested in what he was doing and he absolutely caught the learning bug with I.T.

Darren Bailey – In total I have 21 qualifications altogether; 15 are IT qualifications and that's not the end of it.

Sue Keenan (Lancaster and Morecambe College) – He now works for Lancaster and Morecambe College.

Darren Bailey – I'm a network office for Lancaster and Morecambe College. There's a massive contrast between where I am now and where I was. Its two different worlds.

Sue Keenan (Lancaster and Morecambe College) – It's really great to see how it's all developed for him. Just from a little bit of starting an IT course that he wasn't very sure about.