

# Briggsy cooking up a storm at KFC

IT'S not often you find someone who loves their job so much they turn up to their shift early and leave late.

But not everyone is like Michael (Briggsy) Briggs.

Michael has epilepsy and when he was younger he had a fit which caused part of his brain to shut down.

That has not stopped the friendly 18-year-old from working at Woodridge KFC, with the special job of making the mashed potatoes and gravy.

"I have good workmates," he says as he admits he likes to sing along to the radio when he works.

"They are good to talk to, they are really nice and friendly."

Michael was helped into his position with Job Placement Limited - a free service which helps people with disabilities into the workforce.

Job Placement Limited employment consultant Tri Pham said even though Michael had a disability he was still keen to work.

"He has a disability but he also has ability," he said.

Michael started work at Woodridge KFC in early January and store manager Dee Little said he was doing



**Gemma BLAIR**

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"He's always coming in early, he still wants to come to work even when he is sick," she said.

"We give people like Briggsy the opportunity because it gives them a chance and gives us extra hands on board."

Michael, who became a client of Mr Pham's when he finished school last year, said he always knew he wanted to work in the food industry.

"At school I did hospitality and I want to be a chef," he said.

Michael usually does four or five four-hour shifts at KFC a week and said he wanted to stay working at the store for "as long as they keep me here".

One person who helps Michael keep his job is Mr Pham who watches over Michael as he works two or three times a week.

"When he first started I was here every shift," Mr Pham said.

"Michael doesn't have a good sense of safety and we



**Michael (Briggsy) Briggs on the job at Woodridge KFC.**

don't want to see anything happen to him.

"The main reason why I am here is to help Michael keep the job."

Mr Pham said Job Placement Limited covered a large area, with the head office in Woodridge.

"Our job is to help people

and support them, and provide on the job training," he said.

"We help them to stay in the job for as long as possible."

For more information about Job Placement Limited call their toll free number on 1800 804 236.

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