



## Supported Internship Programme

Walsall Council has made a commitment to support young people aged 16 to 24 years old with learning disabilities and/or autism with an EHC (Education, Health and Care) Plan, to be able to access opportunities within and outside of the council. Specifically we will work with our line managers to create opportunities across the organisation for Supported Internships.

Supported Internships are work-based learning placements. The aim is for a young person to secure a job at the end of the placement. Placements should last between 6 to 12 months and normally would be at least 20 hours per week. There could be opportunities to rotate between work placements. This is unpaid work.

Supported Internships will:

- Help young people gain qualifications
- Help improve Maths and English to be able to use them in real life
- Help develop confidence in own ability to perform successfully at work
- Increase job opportunities and widen social networks

To give young people the very best chance of accessing/competing for opportunities, support has been developed and includes the below. It is important to state that support will be person centred and therefore bespoke, ensuring the very best outcomes for the young people concerned.

- A visit to the Council
- Shorter work taster sessions
- A guaranteed one to one interview
- A bespoke work experience placement - timeframe will be developed to suit the individual
- Access to a wide range of learning opportunities including Customer Service, Resilience Training, Health and Safety, Safeguarding Awareness

In addition to the above, during the work placement period, the young person will be coached/mentored not only by their own Job Coach but also by experienced officers within the Council's Learning and Development Team as well as officers from the wider Council Directorates.

### Interested in finding out more about Supported Internships?

- If you are a young person aged 16 to 24 years old with learning disabilities and/or autism with an EHC Plan you are eligible for a Supported Internship so please contact us to find out the next steps.
- If you know someone who might be interested in or who would benefit from a Supported Internship then please contact us to discuss the referral process.
- If you are a Team/line manager within the Council and are able to offer a work placement opportunity then please contact us to discuss the programme requirements.

For further information and general enquiries please contact the Learning and Development team on Tel: 01922 655678 or email: [learninganddevelopment@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:learninganddevelopment@walsall.gov.uk)

